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Thursday,
February 2,
2006

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United Way nears goal



Photo by Dan Sanderson
The Crawford County United Way has raised 60 percent of the \$70,000 the organization plans to raise for its annual campaign. United Way officials hope to reach their fund raising goal at Care Night which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 11 at the Grayling Eagles Club. Above, Linda Williams, the director for Crawford County United Way, and Sheriff Kirk Wakefield, a member on the United Way Board of Directors, raise the thermometer on the campaign sign located by the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce office.

Mechanical failure causes flooding at Frederic School

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

A mechanical failure which caused flooding at the former Frederic Elementary School has forced activities that take place in the building to relocate.

A pipe which was connected to a holding tank that serves a bathroom area in the Frederic Elementary School separated on Sunday, Jan. 22., causing flooding to occur throughout the entire building, said Mike Dunckel, the business manager for Crawford AuSable School District (CASD).

The water was as high as one foot in parts of the building and one to two inches in most of the school.

The problem was reported to district officials by staff for the Northeast Michigan Community Services Agency's Frederic Head Start program which holds classes in the building.

A sensor, which activates the water flow, kept pumping the source of water because the equipment believed that the tank was empty.

"Since it was sideways, it just kept pumping the water into the building," Dunckel said.

The district contracted with Flood Fighters, a Gaylord based firm, to clean the school up. The firm immediately began pump-

ing water out of the building.

The carpet in the school was ripped up, and about two foot of dry wall in classrooms was damaged and ripped out due to potential problems with mold and mildew. Nearly the entire school was impacted with the exception of the gymnasium at the south end of the building and two classrooms on the north end of the building. The estimated cost for the clean up is \$20,000, which will be covered by insurance. Some books and reading materials, which were also stored in the building, were also destroyed.

The CASD officials closed Frederic Elementary School in 2003 due to budget woes and declining enrollment.

The district's adult education programming was being held in the building, which has temporarily relocated to the high school.

Children involved in the Frederic Head Start program have been staying home due to the damage at the school. The program has received donations of funds and teaching materials from the AuSable Primary School and Head Start programs in Mio, Grayling and Cheboygan. Frederic Township
Continued on Page 3A

See "MECHANICAL..."

Youth pursue plans to develop skate park

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

City officials are hoping to give youth a push that will help roll equipment for a skate park into the community.

The City of Grayling's Parks and Recreation Committee is holding an informational meeting to help kickoff the drive to establish a skate park for youth at 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6 at the Grayling City Hall.

Vicky Townsend and her son Trey, 16, a junior at Grayling High School, have approached city officials with plans to have equipment placed on the asphalt pad behind city hall, which is used as an ice rink for the winter, so that kids have a place to skate board, in-line skate or ride their BMX bikes.

Trey has been skateboarding since he was in middle school. He and his mother hopes the community will develop the skate park so that youth will no longer be shoed away when they are taking part in the hobby they love in other places in town. "Some store owners don't mind them being there as long as they don't bother their customers and other just flat out don't want them there, that's why they need to have a designated skate park," Vicky said.

The Townsends will present

petitions signed by registered voters as well as youth that were gathered by City Council Member Tom Wellman that asks city officials to fund the skate park. In addition, a survey is being sent to students to gain their interest in the initiative.

Grayling City Police Karl Schreiner said he supported having the skate park to provide an additional recreational opportunity for youth.

"The kids are usually pretty good about where they skate, but they do need a place to go," he said.

The Townsends have already gained pledges from area businesses to help fund the skate park. They also plan to apply for grants through the Weyerhaeuser Foundation and the Tony Hawk Foundation, which was established by the famed skate boarder to help communities build skate parks for youth. The City of Gaylord was successful in obtaining a grant from the Tony Hawk Foundation that helped fund their community's skate park.

Mary Ann Ferrigan, chairwoman for the parks and recreation committee, plans to form a skate boarding club that will be charged with raising money for

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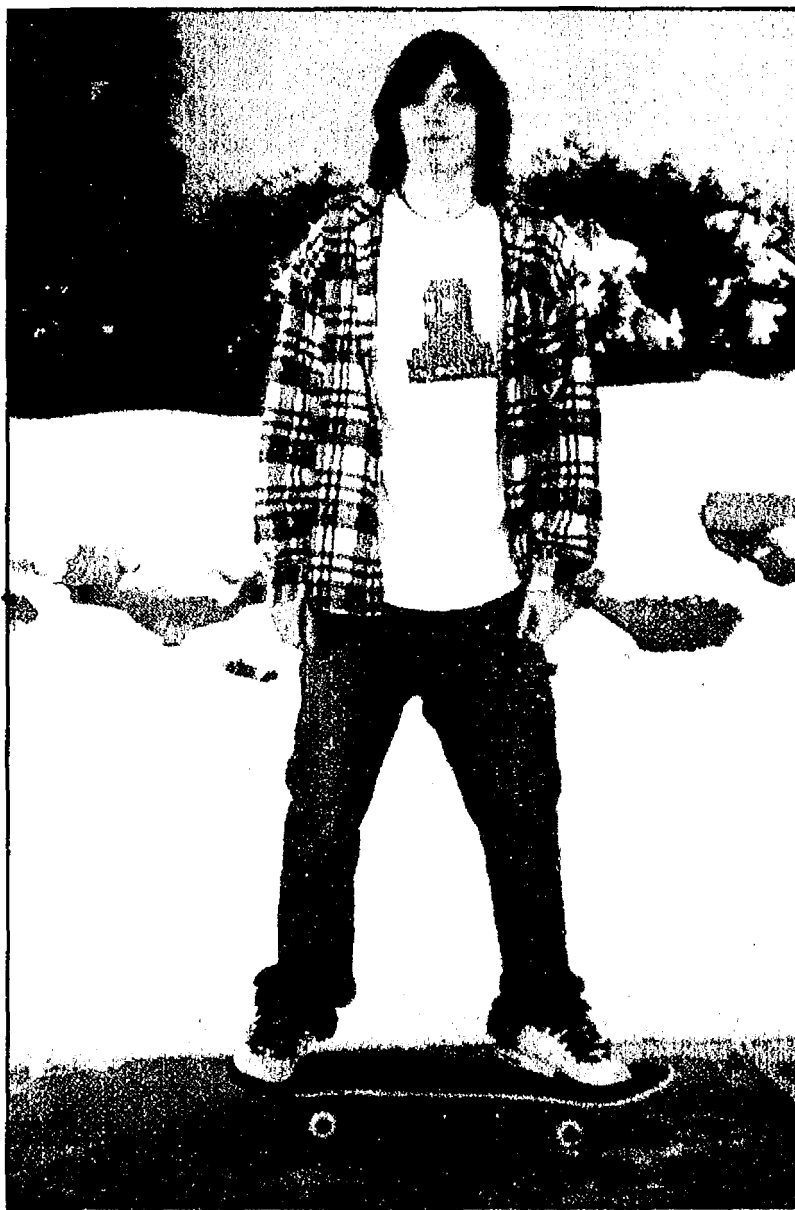


Photo by Dan Sanderson

Trey Townsend, 16, couldn't resist getting on his skate board while sidewalks were cleared of snow last week. Townsend is encouraging youth and parents to attend a meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6 where the development of a designated skate park will be discussed.

Divorce education classes offered

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

The 46th Circuit Trial Court is spearheading an effort to help families involved in high conflict divorces resolve their disputes.

The trial court is partnering with the Department of Human Services and Michigan State University (MSU) Extension in Crawford, Otsego and Kalkaska Counties to offer the Parents Forever program, a program for high conflict families in divorce transition or in other disputes involving their children. The Parents Forever program was developed by the University of Minnesota Extension Service in collaboration with the Minnesota Supreme Court.

The four main goals of the Parents Forever program are:

- Eliminating parental conflict in front of the child.
- Keeping the child out of the middle of parent issues.
- Providing access to both parents.
- Putting the best interest of the child first.

"The 46th Circuit Trial Court is interested in providing families additional opportunities to understand how to manage the stress and challenges of family transitions," said Rudi Edel, the court administrator for the 46th

Circuit Trial Court.

Another goal is to reduce the number of parents returning to the court system, as well as to reduce the number of parents who inappropriately report child abuse and neglect charges to the Department of Human Services.

"They are wasting a lot of staff time addressing these complaints so they want to insert those families into the classes so they stop doing that," said Linda Cronk, the MSU Extension Director for Crawford County.

Classes will be held on a rotating basis in Otsego, Crawford and Kalkaska counties.

The court, Friend of the Court or the Department of Human Service will refer parents for the program. Parents can take the classes in an adjoining county if there is immediate need, or can wait to take the classes in the county they live in when the classes are available, Edel said.

It will cost about \$20,000 to offer the classes in the three counties.

Funding is being split between the Department of Human Services as well as funds earmarked from marriage license fees collected in the three counties.

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Warm weather didn't stop Fun Run

Despite unseasonably warm weather and rain late in the event, the 2nd Annual Snowmobile Fun Run, to benefit the Animal Shelter of Crawford County, held Jan. 28 was deemed a success by organizers.

"If it wasn't for that unexpected heavy snowfall we received early last week, the turnout for this event may not have been so good," said Sharon Priebe, shelter board president. "We were just thrilled to see so many people come out to support the shelter in questionable trail conditions."

Twenty-four sledders followed the melting route, while 16 registered participants chose to just attend the festivities at The Ole Barn, the beginning and ending point of the Fun Run route. Owner Greg Laudenslager served up both a hearty lunch and a pork loin/flank steak dinner with all the trimmings for everyone.

Meals, several prizes, and t-shirts were donated by businesses and individuals for the event sponsored by Washington

Mortgage Company and Century 21 River Country Real Estate. Hosting and sponsoring stops along the route were Dingman's Bar, Sawmill Tavern and the Holiday Inn of Grayling.

Riders came from all over Michigan to support the shelter fundraiser, including those involved with animal rescue efforts in Livingston County and Coldwater. But, the winner of the Fun Run for the second year in a row was local man, Tony McClenahan, of Frederic. His dog, Rosco, adopted from the shelter early last year, came for a short visit before the sledders took off.

"Even though the weather wasn't ideal for the Fun Run, everyone said they had a lot of fun," said Mary Becker of Washington Mortgage Company. Becker is the founder and organizer of the event, and a part time resident of Frederic. "We had warm weather last year, too. Hopefully, the third time will be the 'charm' and we'll have great trail conditions in 2007."

Over \$1,400 was raised as a



Twenty-four snowmobile and animal enthusiasts departed from The Ole Barn in Grayling at about noon on Jan. 28 as participants in the 2nd Annual Snowmobile Fun Run to benefit the Animal Shelter of Crawford County. Unseasonably warm temperatures, then rain made for less than favorable trail conditions this year. In all, 40 people registered for the event, both riders and spectators.

result of this year's Fun Run. "I've told the shelter board to use the funds as they see fit, as this is the most difficult time of year for their daily operating budget," explained Becker.

"I'm so happy to be part of the animal welfare effort in this community," Becker said. "It is so

important to take care of those defenseless animals that are in need of a warm, safe place to stay while waiting to be adopted into loving homes."

"We just can't find enough words to express how much our hearts are warmed by the extraordinary support we receive from

this community and beyond when it comes to caring for our shelter dogs and cats," Priebe said, on behalf of the organization. "It's nice to know our mission is so important to so many, especially with the construction of a new shelter facility on the horizon."

Super Bowl Sunday



Specials

Taking a Stroll Down Memory Lane

As legions of people gather on the first Sunday in February to watch Super Bowl XL, one of America's great traditions, the Super Bowl party, will no doubt conjure up conversations of the best Super Bowls of all time. Here's a look at some of the most memorable games since the name was officially adopted in 1969, three years after the National Football League (NFL) merged with the American Football League (AFL).

¶ Super Bowl III, January 12, 1969, New York Jets vs. Baltimore Colts. The only Super Bowl the Jets have ever won or appeared in, Super Bowl III is famous for New York quarterback Joe Namath guaranteeing on the Thursday, before the game that his Jets team would defeat the heavily favored Colts. The Jets did just that, winning 16-7 to become the first AFL team to win a

championship in the newly merged league. Namath walked the walk in the game, too, connecting on 17 of 28 passes for 206 yards and forever etching his name in Super Bowl lore.

¶ Super Bowl VII, January 14, 1973, Miami Dolphins vs. Washington Redskins. When Miami defeated Washington 14-7, they became the first, and last, NFL team to go an entire season without losing a game. Washington's lone score came on a botched field goal attempt by the Dolphins with a little more than two minutes left in the game. To this day, members of the 1972-73 Dolphins team have a champagne toast whenever the last of the unbeaten teams in the NFL finally loses a game and the Dolphins' record remains intact for one more season.

¶ Super Bowl XIII, January 21, 1979,

Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Dallas Cowboys. Regarded by many football historians as the greatest Super Bowl ever, Super Bowl XIII made legends out of the core players of the Steelers, whose 35-31 win was the team's third Super Bowl victory in the 1970s. Quarterback Terry Bradshaw threw for four touchdowns en route to being named the game's Most Valuable Player. Midway through the final quarter, the Steelers scored two touchdowns in a span of 19 seconds to clinch the win.

¶ Super Bowl XXIII, January 22, 1989, San Francisco 49ers vs. Cincinnati Bengals. Despite being down 16-13 with a little more than three minutes remaining, 49ers quarterback Joe Montana led his team on a game-winning 92-yard drive, culminating in a 10-yard touchdown pass to John Taylor with 34 seconds remaining. It was Montana and the 49ers third Super Bowl win of the decade. The game denied Cincinnati their first-ever Super Bowl victory, something they still do not have to this day.

¶ Super Bowl XXV, January 27, 1991, New York Giants vs. Buffalo Bills. The first of four consecutive Super Bowl losses for Buffalo, Super Bowl XXV will forever be remembered as The Scott Norwood Game. Losing 20-19 with mere seconds remaining in the game, Bills place kicker Scott Norwood missed a 47-yard field goal, handing the Giants their second Super Bowl win in five years. New York's one-point margin of victory remains to this day the smallest such margin in Super Bowl history. Norwood's misadventure was later the subject of a film titled Buffalo 66, in which an ex-convict seeks to kill a Buffalo kicker for missing a Super Bowl-winning field goal and thus ruining his life.

¶ Super Bowl XXXIV, January 30, 2000, St. Louis Rams vs. Tennessee Titans. Rams linebacker Mike Jones made the biggest tackle of his life, stopping Titans wide receiver Kevin Dyson at the 1-yard line as time expired and preserving a 23-16 victory for St. Louis. Despite stretching the ball out as far as he could, Dyson's stretch fell just short of the goal line.

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Books shipped to Africa to equip library

by Dan Sanderson
Staff Writer

Grayling area residents last week loaded a truck with hundreds of books, giving the gift of literacy to underprivileged children in Africa.

Tasha Carlisle gathered the books over the last two years as part of the project called "Giving the Gift of Reading - Ghana."

A 2000 Grayling High School graduate, Carlisle spent a year attending the University of Cape Coast in Cape Coast, Africa.

While there, Carlisle witnessed the limited educational and financial resources available to children.

She learned for every five children in Ghana, there is one book, many of which are from the turn of the century when Europeans came over in the 1800s.

The Akyem-Abuakwa region in Ghana had made some strides and found funds to build a library, but had no money to place any books upon the shelves.

Prior to returning, Carlisle initiated the project to gather the books for the library. A kickoff of her campaign was held at the Devereaux Memorial Library. Books were also gathered from high schools in the Grand Rapids area, where Carlisle was attending Grand Valley State University. Grand Valley students also donated textbooks, that they could not sell back, to Carlisle, who graduated last summer.

Along with gathering the books, Carlisle, the daughter of Nancy Hunt and Daniel Carlisle, also raised over \$4,000 needed to ship the books to Africa.

"I was never worried about whether she would get the books. I was worried about getting enough money to ship the books, because I knew how expensive it was from sending packages over there," Hunt said.

Carlisle held a fund-raiser at the American Legion in November, which featured a dance, rappers and live music. Funds raised during Grayling's Santa Stroll also went toward the project.

Last Wednesday, 17 people helped load over 200 boxes of



Tasha Carlisle gathered books over the last two years as part of the project called "Giving the Gift of Reading - Ghana."



books in a moving van. That means that Carlisle's stepfather, John Hunt, got his garage back since the books have been housed there and in an attic space for several months.

"It was a learning experience and everybody getting together to get the job done was fantastic," John Hunt said.

More books stored in Grand Rapids were packaged in a shipping crate along with the books gathered in the Grayling area. In all, 455 boxes, containing an estimated 12,000 books will be shipped to Africa. They will travel from Grand Rapids to Detroit, to New York, where

they will be loaded on board a freighter. The books are expected to arrive in Africa by March 15. Carlisle will travel to Ghana to help the friends she has made set up the library.

"I am extremely anxious for the books to get there and I am looking forward to getting there and helping them set up the library they've been wanting for such a long time," Carlisle said.

Carlisle is currently working as a substitute teacher for Crawford AuSable Schools. She is applying for a position with the Peace Corps so she can continue helping people further their educational opportunities.

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Police locate lost rabbit hunters

Police teamed up to find three lost hunters on Sunday who were missing overnight.

Troopers from the Houghton Lake Post of the Michigan State Police were notified of the missing hunters at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

A friend of the hunters, Caleb Borton, called to report that he had dropped off three friends and their dog in an area near Robinson Kale Road in Missaukee County - which is known as Deadstream Swamp. The men were rabbit hunting, and Borton had agreed to pick them up four hours later.

Borton called dispatch when his friends did not arrive at their meeting site. Troopers from the

Houghton Lake Post and Cadillac Post, Missaukee County Sheriff's Deputies, Department of Natural Resources officers and Michigan State Police K-9 handlers from Gaylord and Traverse City assisted in the search.

The three missing persons, Scott Bachman, Shane Morris and Josh Bodine were located early Sunday morning, safe and in good health. They were located by using tracking dogs and sirens from the patrol vehicles.

The Deadstream Swamp is a densely wooded area with few landmarks to locate position, especially after dark. Weather prevented any chance of an air search.

Divorce education classes offered

Continued from Page 1A

Crawford County will administer the program for the court system, but will not be liable if funding is not available.

Cronk said other counties in the state are considering using the program.

"This will be one of those pilot programs that everybody watches," Cronk said.

An evaluation of the program indicated that 75 percent of the program participants changed their

behavior and now avoid conflict in front of their children. Close to half were able to manage their conflict with the other parent in a more positive manner.

A total of 79 percent of participants indicated that their emotional well being had gotten better and their child's had as well since taking the Parents Forever classes. More than 50 percent said that both cooperation with the other parent and communication with their children had improved.

Youth pursue plans to develop skate park

Continued from Page 1A

equipment and helping maintain the skate park.

"My whole goal is to give them ownership of the skate park so they will help raise the money for it and will take care of it," Ferrigan said.

Trey Townsend says he enjoys skateboarding because it is an activity that he can enjoy on his own that keeps him out of mischief. He hopes the

city can have the skate park developed before he graduates and moves on to other educational and career pursuits.

"It does not matter whether you are going to 'tear it up' in the park, or you are going to sit and cheer your kid on, we would like for everyone to be there," Trey said in an invitation encouraging youth and their parents to attend Monday's meeting.

Mechanical failure causes flooding at Frederic School

Continued from Page 1A

officials have made the township hall available for local field trips, and the CASD officials have also offered bussing for the students.

"The Frederic Head Start

teachers are making home visits and are arranging field trips to keep the families and children involved as much as possible until they can all return to their classroom," said Sherry Garner,

area manager for the Frederic, Mio and Grayling Head Start programs.

A general contractor will be hired to repair the walls in the school, Dunckel said.

The Crawford County United Way Presents

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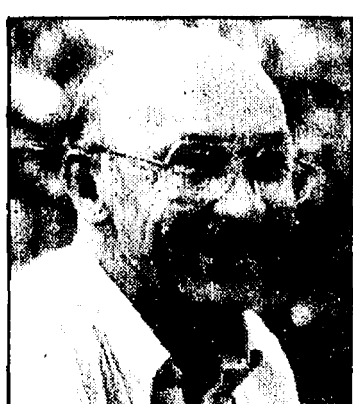
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And the List is Growing...

"Working Here In Our Community"

OPINIONS



ALMANACK

by Richard L. Milliman

Governor Granholm sets tone for '06 campaign

THE ANNUAL STATE of the State message by Michigan's governor each year outlines the chief executive's analysis of the condition of the state, plus his/her plans for the coming year to improve that condition.

An address by the governor at the Michigan Press Association's convention each January also has become a sounding board, where the governor usually digests or explains to Michigan publishers and editors the plans spelled out in the official S-O-S address.

And so it was again in 2006, and this year both sounded as much like a political platform as a working action program for the state.

But then, 2006 is an election year, Gov. Jennifer Granholm is an unspoken candidate for four more years in the executive office, and what is a campaign

platform but a catalog of programs the candidate believes are good for Michigan and her citizens.

MUCH OF THE meat in the two messages has been part of the governor's program already put forth during her first three years in office. Here's a brief rundown of points in the Granholm Plan, excerpted and digested from both speeches:

The governor continues to push a tougher standard for high school graduates and state scholarships for the early years in college. Jobs in future growth areas — she lists alternative energy, life sciences, advanced manufacturing, homeland security and defense — all require college degrees, she contends, and Michigan must prepare our students.

Unemployment requires

retraining of displaced workers in such present growth fields as health care and skilled trades.

For jobs right now, spending in long-neglected infrastructure repair and new construction should be stepped up for infrastructure repair and improvements, plus new public buildings and projects.

Our present economic condition with serious unemployment problems in Michigan are not her fault, but chiefly the result of "the deindustrialization of America" and the worldwide move toward "global manufacturing."

Washington must insist upon fair trade and not just free trade, the minimum wage should be increased, and business taxes should be lowered again and again.

She also proposed state help for home heating costs, adequate

health care for those with no insurance or inadequate coverage, 20 percent slash in home and auto insurance costs, a state program to encourage 401K retirement plans for small business and non-covered employees — and all of these and some others, of course, with no new taxes.

TO THE TELEVISION audience, which is how I saw her S-O-S message, Gov. Granholm delivered a bravura performance, capturing the unseen audience with her words, her inflections, her demeanor, her gestures, her smile and disposition, her occasional subtle humor.

A warm and friendly yet dedicated and sincere Jennifer Granholm came through loud and strong. She really knows how to work an audience. Those

who saw the speech from their homes likely will remember her style long after the content goes from the mind. It's called personal charisma, and Jennifer Granholm has it in abundance.

She adjusted her manner for the meeting of publishers and editors, which I attended. Her style was a bit more subdued, but not much. She talked for about an hour, with hardly a peek at notes, wandering the stage with portable mike in hand, engaging the newspaper folks near both sides of the stage. She took no questions.

Unlike the legislative address where her every point was applauded by Democratic legislators and sometimes by Republicans, too, her newspaper talk drew applause only once, and that for an attack on President Bush: If the president can bail out the big oil compa-

nies, she said, then he certainly can bail out General Motors and Ford, too. It struck a parochial Michigan chord.

Better times are ahead, she promised, claiming in her S-O-S message that "in five years, you are going to be blown away by the strength and diversity of Michigan's transformed economy."

Let's see, now: Five years will be one more year of Gov. Granholm's first term, plus four more years in a second term, which she hopes to win in November.

Gov. Granholm has set the political stage for the coming year. Let the campaign begin in earnest.

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

EDITOR

We hired them, we can fire them too

To the editor,

I wish to congratulate Mr. Rick Anderson on his excellent letter on Jan. 26. Mr. Anderson's thoughtful and insightful facts were excellent. I too, was embarrassed by the treatment that Mr. Alito was given by the self-serving attitudes of our senate. These are the people we voted to represent us? The only people they represent are their own over-sized egos.

Is it any wonder in a recent zuggie poll only 23 percent of the people believe the senate and congress are doing a good job?

How many good and honest candidates have we lost because

they did not want to submit themselves and their families to the slander our so-called elected members of the congress and senate inflict on them?

If the tables were turned, and they were subjected to such brow-beating and interrogation, their attitude would be "how dare you ask me such a question?"

How many times have we turned on the news to hear "the vote went along party lines." Well maybe its time to tell these guys to get off their personal vendettas and do what is right for the American people. We hired them, we can fire them too.

Maybe its time to send them a

message. We can do it at the ballot box. Our founding fathers never intended for these guys to be in office for 30 plus years. Let's remind them who they are working for.

In closing, let me just say that Mr. Rick Anderson's letter reminds us that being Democrat or Republican is not the most important factor in this country. We are Americans, and most believe in liberty and freedom in this greatest country in the world.

God Bless our Country, our President and our Military.

James W. Allman
Grayling

Disappearing trees is about the mighty dollar

To the editor,

This is in response to the editorial by Jim Clements, in the Jan. 19, Avalanche, concerning tree cutting. We did do a petition back in 2004. It stated our concerns for all the clear-cutting and replanting of only jack pines. The petition signatures (over 300), were sent to Ms. Granholm and to Tony Stamas.

Tony Stamas did forward our concerns to the DNR. What they replied with was ridiculous. Here's a couple of points we enjoyed most. "Jack pines grow rapidly. Once a clear-cut is

replanted, it grows quickly, restoring any given area in only a few years." "Jack pine forests in the lower peninsula occur on the low fertility, sandy, outwash plains that don't typically support other forest types." So let's cut down towering red pines and large acorn bearing oaks and replace them with jack pines.

Other statements included were that large numbers of people each year visit the jack pine habitat. Have any other local businesses seen any significant revenue from these so-called visitors? We have not.

What's happening to our state is simple. Our Governor is selling it, and anything in it with no regard to it's future. No one in the DNR or our judicial system seems to care about the beauty of Northern Michigan. It's all about the mighty dollar.

When you vote in the next election, please think about this if you care and take the time to research your candidates views and actions on this problem.

Shirley Gaff
Grayling

Information on Wakeley Lake is cleared up

To the editor,

I am writing this to you in hopes to clear up some of the misinformation that has appeared in various publications, including yours, about the ownership and use of what is now Wakeley Lake National Forest at M-72 and Wakeley Bridge Road.

Our father, John P. Denison, purchased the property in 1952 from Timberlands Corporation. Clare Madsen, the township supervisor, was its representative. It was purchased for \$25,000.

The first thing my father did was to have it surveyed and fenced. We figured it was a 7 1/2 mile perimeter. Many of the owners of the private properties that abut the piece will be surprised to learn that their no trespassing and no hunting signs posted on our fence lines are not their property. The fence was placed 16 feet inside the boundary, as it was anticipated that a road would encircle the outside perimeter. In fact it got bulldozed inside the fence.

Dad had Jack Millikin build a dam and causeway on the lake edge. The dam was so we could control the flow of water and create a duck marsh on the back side. He also had Jack put the fence around the property and the road inside the fence. Dad spent about \$50,000 with Jack. Jack was a very honest man, just a hand shake and it was done and done right.

It was a wonderful place for a family that hunted and loved the outdoors. Dad took my brother, Dick and I out hunting when we were five and six years old. We were in our 20's when he bought it.

There were two cabins, a garage with a workshop at the lake, a bunkhouse, a horse barn and a two seater outhouse. I can't imagine today's value of a 1200 acre parcel, with a 160 acre lake in the middle. Plumbing was put into the best cabin and it was expanded to three bedrooms. You could spit between the cracks in the floor in the bunk house and a fifty-

gallon drum stove heated it. Eventually it had a solid floor, a cook stove, toilet and showers (I like the rustic best).

A house was built on M-72. Jack Milligan put in the foundation and we built the rest of it. Today it is the US Forest managers house (as the US Government now owns it) with a big sign: DO NOT ENTER-PRIVATE PROPERTY. Recently it was resided and a big porch was built on the front.

When my brother, Richard, was discharged from the Army at the end of the Korean conflict, he settled in the lake cabin with his wife, dog, and a buck deer, whose mother was killed on M-72 and raised by him (eventually "Baby" was transported by the DNR to an enclosure in St. Helen with 30 does - Heaven?).

In your article of Aug. 21, 2003 there seems to be a bit of criticism about carrying of guns by our family. This did not come about until a trespasser shot at my brother when he yelled at him for being on the property and three trespassers on the back of the property pointed their guns at my dad. That was it.

We had wonderful times there, summer and winter. Deer season was a highlight with family and friends. The deer were plentiful then and it was not unusual to take in 20 in a season. We had a swamp that was not hunted until the Saturday of Thanksgiving and we would drive it and if 10 to 15 deer didn't come out it was an unusual year.

Our grandfather, Walter, died in camp. He came into Dick's cabin feeling poorly and asked for a cup of tea, asked Dick's wife to have a smoke with him. Arlene lit a cigarette, he lit his pipe and they talked awhile and then he walked to the house at the main gate saying "I won't see you again." When he got there he asked dad to pour him a whiskey, which he did. Dad went out to put out a bonfire he had going and when he came back in gramp had drunk the

whiskey and laid down on the couch and was gone. What a way to go. I hope that type of end for me.

For a while we raised pheasants and peacocks. One year dad released 300 exotic birds and other then for one killed on the highway we never saw them again. The peacocks were good eating. They weighed seven to nine pounds and were all white meat.

Dad, who retired at 40, reached 60 and decided to sell the property. I tried to discourage him and if I had been smart, which I was not, I would have gotten the hunting partners together and bought it as he wanted \$175,000. The Federal Government surveyed the property and offered \$147,000, which he refused. The Boy Scouts then offered \$300,000 if they could get four-40 acre camp sites around the lake. They could only get three so the agreement died. Andy Kalman bought the land for \$300,000 and a few years later sold it to the Federal Government for (reportedly) two millions dollars (I hope the earlier appraiser realized his mistake).

My brother Dick lives across the road west of the property and we still hunt it, but the deer aren't there. It's nostalgic and at our ages we are really "almost" too old to drag a deer a mile or so out of the woods, as it is a no modernized vehicle forest. The Government really needs to do some planning and improving of the property. It has become so overgrown that the food source for the deer isn't there. The trees they eat are too big and need to be cut so they can nibble on the saplings. It's a good piece of property and with a little concerned management it might become a great property. A little cooperation between the Federal Government and the deer management organizations might provide an outstanding result.

Walter R. Denison
Bloomfield Hills

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The opinions expressed in the letters and columns on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Crawford County Avalanche.

Your views are welcome on the Opinion Page. Letters may be typed or handwritten, but please double-space or use every other line and limit to 500 words.

Every letter must be signed and an address and telephone number must be included to be considered for publication. Letters will not be published without the author's name. Telephone numbers are not published.

All letters are subject to editing and will be printed as space allows.

Deadline for submission of letters to the editor is Friday at noon for consideration for publication in the following week's paper.

BRIEFS

Pianist to perform dessert concert at GHS

Rich Ridenour will perform a dessert concert as part of the Grayling Promotional Association Entertainment Series on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Grayling High School Auditorium. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., concert will follow dessert. Tickets are available for \$15 adults and \$12 senior/students at the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce, Flowers By Josie or at the GHS Auditorium door. For more information call the Grayling Chamber at 989-348-2921.

Free Family Fun Night to be held

Free Family Fun Night for all AuSable Primary and Grayling Elementary families will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 5:15 p.m. - 7 p.m., in the AuSable Primary and Grayling Elementary buildings. A free dinner will be served with time allowed to visit classrooms and view student work followed by an interactive performance by Acting Up Theatre. This family night is presented by Title 1.

Legion Auxiliary to hold meeting

The American Legion Auxiliary will hold their regular meeting on Feb. 8, at 3:30 p.m., at the American Legion Hall in Grayling.

Consumer Fraud series to be held

The senior center at 308 Lawndale, Grayling, will be holding the second in an eight week series on how to protect yourself from consumer fraud. Sheriff Wakefield from the Crawford County Sheriff's Department will be presenting, on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 12:30 p.m., on the topic "Home Repair Fraud," with information on the warning signs of home repair fraud, the basics of a home improvement contract, and what to do if you've been ripped off. For more information call Alice Snyder at 348-7123.

Crawford County Democrats to meet

The Crawford County Democrats will gather for their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m., at the Crawford County Court House. For more information call 348-7037.

Band boosters plan monthly meeting

The Grayling Viking Band Boosters meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m., in the Grayling Middle School Band Room. All parents of band students are invited to attend and become more involved in activities that support the instrumental music program for both Grayling Middle School and Grayling High School.

VFW service officer to interview veterans

The Department of Michigan, Veterans of Foreign Wars Assistant State Service Officer, Art Bates, will be at the Michigan Works Office in Grayling on Friday, Feb. 3, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and Friday, Feb. 17, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., to interview claimants about VA benefits. Call 989-348-8709 if you have any questions.

Grayling High School registration process begins

The registration process for selecting courses at the Grayling High School for the 2006-2007 school year began on Wed. Feb. 1. Middle school students had the opportunity to visit the high school for a presentation on the high school curriculum and a tour of the school. On Feb. 1, parents were invited to an informal program starting at 7 p.m. in the Joseph Stripe Auditorium.

The high school counselors will visit the middle school on Feb. 6 to explain in detail how to register for high school classes. Middle school students will then have a week to fill out their course requests, and high school principal Daniel Pummell and assistant principal Melissa Stone will visit the middle school on

Feb. 13 to meet with students and collect their forms.

High school students will view a presentation of the high school curriculum, vocational offerings through C.O.O.R., and the Advanced Placement classes on Feb. 8.

They will then receive curriculum guides and registration forms to fill out. They will have until Feb. 12 to confer with their teachers and parents regarding their course requests, and will then meet with their counselor to finalize their choices.

Parents are encouraged to contact Mrs. Metiva, middle school counselor, at 344-3560, or Mrs. Frederick or Mrs. Thompson, high school counselors, if they have any questions at 344-3512.

Kirtland invites LaFemina to kick off winter Controlled Burn event

Poet and writer Gerry LaFemina, a former instructor at Kirtland Community College, returns to campus Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m. to kick off Kirtland's winter 2006 Controlled Burn Reading Series.

As always, the series invites world-class authors and poets to campus to read from their work, answer questions and, with any luck, inspire. Everyone is invited to enjoy the readings which take place about once per month.

All readings take place at the Kirtland House, Kirtland's conference center located on campus. They are followed by a question-and-answer session, then refreshments and a book signing.

LaFemina's books include "Shattered Hours: Poems 1988-94," "Graffiti Heart" and "The Window Facing Winter," as well as a number of chapbooks. His poems, stories and essays have appeared in numerous literary

journals and anthologies. He is guest professor of writing at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids and serves on the board of directors of the Association of Writers and Writing.

The series continues with a Thursday, March 30, 4 p.m. reading by Heather Sellers, an accomplished poet and fiction writer who is now an associate professor at Hope College.

M.L. Liebler will read, along with the Magic Poetry Band, on Thursday, April 13, at 7 p.m. Liebler is known as one of the most popular readers in all of Michigan, offering energetic and jazz-infused performances. Those who love both music and poetry won't want to miss this one.

For more information on the Controlled Burn Reading Series, contact series coordinator Dan Crocker at 989-275-5000, ext. 220.

Shelter offers low cost shot clinic

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County will host a low cost shot clinic on Saturday, Feb. 25 as a community service to help get more animals vaccinated and dogs licensed.

"With the deadline fast approaching to get dogs rabies vaccinated and licensed in Crawford County, we thought this was a good time for the shelter to give a little back to the community and hold a clinic," said Sharon Priebe, Shelter Board President.

Dogs must be rabies vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian and county licenses purchased by Feb. 28 to take advantage of the low cost of \$8 for an unsexed dog and \$15 for an intact dog. Beginning March 1, license fees increase to \$25, regardless of whether or not a dog is spayed or neutered.

Dr. Donna Simons, DVM, of Simons Veterinary Clinic in Elmira, and her staff have agreed to partner with the shelter for this clinic. For years, Dr. Simons has been helping low income people in this community, and beyond, afford to keep their pets by offering her services at reduced prices.

"We would hate to have someone give up or abandon their beloved pet just because they didn't have the resources to have them properly vaccinated and licensed," said Priebe. "That would be so sad for the pet to be displaced and heartbroken. Many people who are on a fixed income, especially our seniors,

absolutely need the companionship their pets provide. We want to help keep those pets with the people who have loved and cared for them, and this clinic is a good way to help."

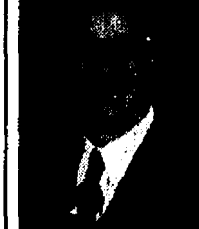
The clinic will be held Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the former Heirloom Antiques Mall, next to the Crawford County Avalanche, on Michigan Avenue in Grayling. Appointments are mandatory and can be made by calling Sharon Priebe at (989) 710-0337 (a local cellular phone number). Leave a message if necessary. Do not call the shelter for information or to make an appointment.

For dogs, the following prices will be charged: Rabies Vaccine - \$11; Annual Parvo/Distemper Booster - \$14; Heartworm Testing - \$20; Identification Micro-Chipping - \$22.

For cats, the following prices will be charged: Rabies Vaccine - \$8; Annual Distemper Booster - \$8; Annual Booster with Feline Leukemia Vaccine - \$14.

"With this clinic, the big job of vaccination and licensing a lot of pets can be accomplished," said Priebe. "Once that is done, we can't say enough about how important it is to make sure your pets don't leave the house without their collars and identification tags on, especially their county license. It's the best way to help them find their way home if they should become separated from you."

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Make Toothbrushing Time Fun

Eliminate kicking and screaming at the bathroom sink. Show kids that brushing can be fun! It can often be difficult for parents to get their children to brush their teeth regularly. After all, kids see it as a chore, not realizing that brushing and flossing is essential for a healthy mouth. So how do you entice your kids to head willingly to the bathroom to brush? Make it exciting. Here are their tips for adding some "wow" to your family's oral health routine:

* Trendy toothbrushes — Allow your kids to brush with an electric toothbrush — especially one emblazoned with their favorite superhero or cartoon character. The vibrating action will make the brushing experience a novelty. And what youngster can pass up playing with a gadget ... even if it is a toothbrush?

* Deck out the bathroom — Transform the bathroom into a room of imagination. Let your kids dream up a theme for the bathroom — like an underwater adventure — and then make it come to life. Accessories like a ocean themed shower curtain, wall mural, and toothbrush and soap holders will really make a splash.

* Flavor is "in" — Why settle for mint toothpaste when each member of the family can enjoy their own favorite flavor? These days flavor variety is an exciting trend in toothpaste. Your kids can choose a new flavor every day, and you can add this completely new experience to your own dental health routine.

* Be a role model — Children are more likely to brush if they see their parents practicing oral health care regularly ... and willingly. Invite the kids into the bathroom and give them a proper lesson on keeping teeth healthy. Make it a family affair that's fun.

* Turn on the tunes — Allow the kids to brush along to their favorite tunes. Songs typically last two to three minutes, the ideal time needed for proper brushing. Plus, if they brush to a favorite song, the enjoyment factor may make them more likely to hit the bathroom to brush.

* Clean competition — Plan a family-friendly competition once a week. Ask your dentist or pharmacy for little red pills or tablets that you chew to see how clean teeth are after brushing (known as disclosing tablets). Load up everyone's toothbrushes with their favorite flavor of toothpaste, and brush away. After the allotted time, chew the tablets and examine teeth. The one with the best results gets a prize — like a night out for pizza or a favorite toy.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Grayling Youth Booster Club

The 50/50 raffle winners for Jan. 29 of \$25 each: Bill Holton, Dan Canfield, and Carlene Englund.

Project Graduation

The "Lucky 300 Club" Raffle winner of \$100 for Jan. 27 is Shawn Krayes.

Granholt's curriculum plan sparks debate

by Derek Wallbank
Capital News Service

Gov. Jennifer Granholm's education proposals face a cautiously optimistic response from lawmakers and education lobbyists.

The proposal where Granholm may find the most consensus is her endorsement of the state Board of Education's recommended curriculum requirements. Currently, the only state requirement for a Michigan diploma is one semester of civics.

Granholm's proposal would mandate 18 credits in subjects like English, math, science, social science and world languages.

"Only one-third of the students who graduate from our high schools right now have taken the math, science and communication courses we know they'll need to compete in our new economy," Granholm said in her State of the State address.

"It's certainly something to look at," said Sen. Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, adding that several school districts already meet or exceed

Granholm's proposed standards.

"We want to make sure that students can do reading, writing and arithmetic."

McManus said she will meet with superintendents throughout her district to see what they think of Granholm's proposal.

Clare High School Principal Kim Kolde said the proposal is "the most ludicrous thing" he's seen.

"If the Legislature wants to do this, why don't they set the requirements for college admissions?"

Kolde said that while he is in favor of more rigor in high school standards, students who aren't on the collegiate track would be disadvantaged by some of the specific requirements.

Clare High School's graduation requirements now meet or exceed most of the governor's standards, said guidance counselor Kathy Howard.

However, Clare students are required to complete only two years of math and two years of science.

Howard, a former math teacher, said "I know that kids

have strengths in different areas, and I don't see some of them making it through four years of math."

The Michigan Education Association (MEA) said there might be a conflict between Granholm's curriculum proposal and federal No Child Left Behind requirements.

No Child Left Behind requires that teachers be certified as "highly qualified" in each subject they teach, something that the MEA says will be difficult for small rural schools that can afford only one science teacher.

The MEA is the state's largest education union.

Rep. Tim Moore, R-Farwell, agreed with the MEA's stance, saying that people should "expect our schools to educate our kids," but questioned whether Michigan will have enough teachers available to comply with the changes.

"Let's make sure we don't have a gym teacher teaching math," said Moore.

But House Democratic Leader Dianne Byrum, D-Onondaga, backed the curriculum changes, saying that current standards aren't stringent enough.

"It's not good enough for Michigan students," said Byrum.

Granholm also proposed expanding the Michigan Merit Scholarship, adding math, science and computer after-school programs for middle-school students, requiring parental notification for children who miss school or fall behind academically, and mandating anti-bullying policies.

McManus said she had already proposed anti-hazing legislation and that many schools already notify parents when their kids struggle academically.

"It's a lot of fluff, not enough

detail," McManus said of Granholm's education plan.

McManus and Moore both said they would wait to see how Granholm intends to fund her programs before they will support them.

"I'll be interested to see how her budget presentation goes and how she plans to pay for some of the things she wants to do," said McManus.

The governor is expected to present her budget to the Legislature Feb. 9.

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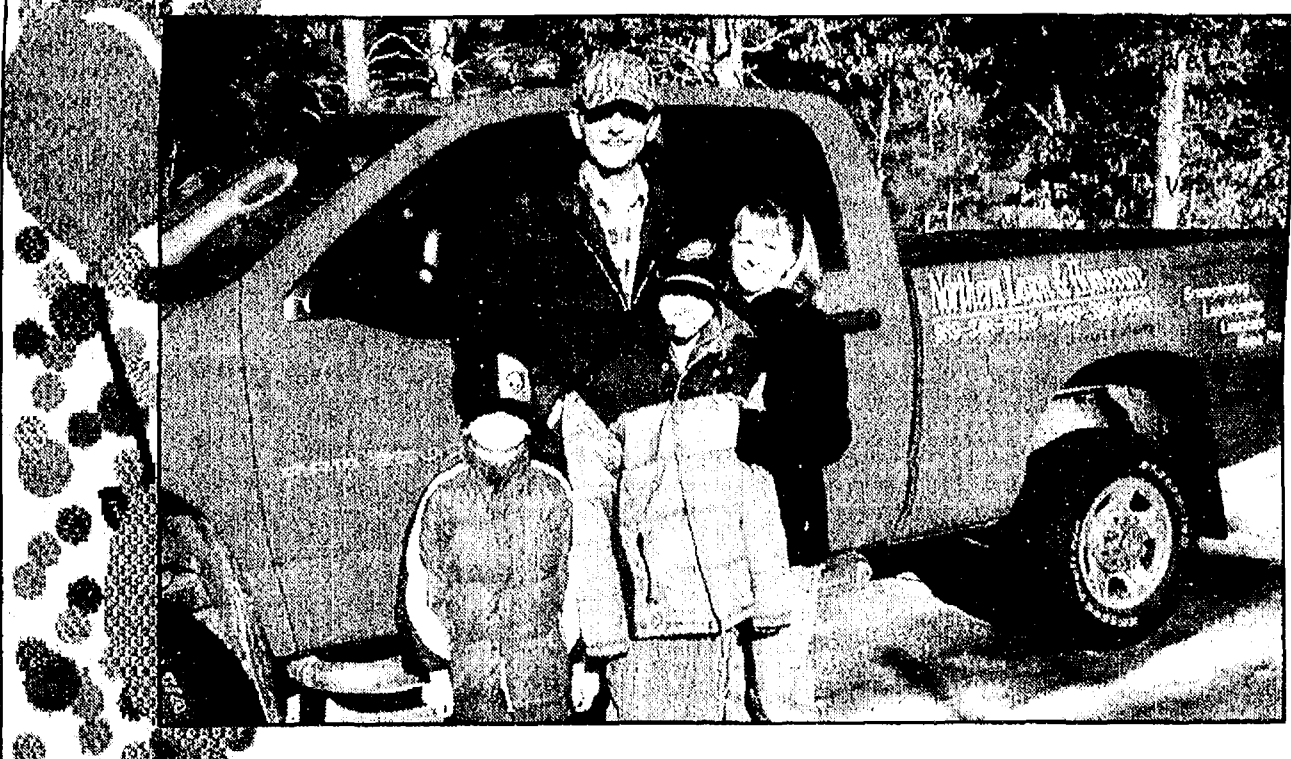


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Proposed high school graduation requirements

In her State of the State address, Gov. Jennifer Granholm endorsed the state Board of Education's curriculum proposal, which includes these course requirements:

* Language Arts: 4 credits that would include writing, grammar, speaking, reading and literature.

* Mathematics: 4 credits that would include 2 credits of algebra and 1 of geometry

* Science: 3 credits that would include biology and physics or chemistry

* Social Science: 3 credits that would include U.S. and world history, civics and economics

* World Languages: 2 credits

* Fine Arts: 1 credit

* Health and Physical Education: 1 credit

Source: Michigan Department of Education

46TH CIRCUIT TRIAL COURT

Sentencings for January 2006

Hon. Dennis F. Murphy

Kyle Allen-Lewis Sperry, age 17 of Saginaw - Plead guilty on November 10, 2005 to motor vehicle-unlawful use; sentenced on January 12, 2006 to serve 90 days in jail with credit for 63 days served; ordered to pay \$60 state minimum costs, \$60 crime victim rights fee, \$300 circuit court costs and \$350 attorney fee; placed on probation for 24 months.

Teresa Diane Spiers, age 35 of Lakeland - Found guilty for a probation violation on December 27, 2005; sentenced on January 12, 2006 to serve 180 days in jail with credit for 28 days served; discharged from probation.

Thomas William Fisher, age 20 of Grayling - Found guilty for a probation violation on December 8, 2005; sentenced on January 13, 2006 to serve 90 days in jail with credit for 26 days served; discharged from probation.

David Michael Baker, age 31 of Grayling - Plead guilty on December 8, 2005 to larceny \$1,000 - \$20,000; sentenced on January 12, 2006 to serve 180 days in jail with credit for 12 days served; ordered to pay \$2,239.75 in restitution, \$60 state minimum costs, \$60 crime victim rights fee, \$300 circuit court costs and \$350 attorney fee; placed on probation for 18 months; ordered to serve three months in jail forthwith, with remaining three months held in abeyance.

Kristy Anne Kauffman, age 27 of Grayling - Plead guilty on December 8, 2005 to credit card possession; sentenced on January 12, 2006 to serve 10 days in jail

with credit for 10 days served; ordered to pay \$382.68 in restitution, \$60 state minimum costs, \$60 crime victim rights fee, \$300 circuit court costs and \$350 attorney fee; placed on probation for 12 months.

Michael Patrick Bergan, age 44 of Grayling - Plead no-contest on November 15, 2005 to assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and habitual offender-second conviction; sentenced on January 12, 2006 to serve 10 to 15 years in prison with credit for 728 days served; ordered to pay \$60 state minimum costs and \$60 crime victim rights fee; sentence to run concurrent with sentence already being served.

Hon. Janet M. Allen

Brian Thomas Neilson, age 19

of Detroit - Plead guilty on December 5, 2005 to substance delivery/manufacture marijuana; sentenced on January 9, 2006 to serve 180 days in jail with credit for 160 days served; ordered to pay \$60 state minimum costs and \$60 crime victim rights fee.

Tina Marie Lovely, age 42 of Grayling - Plead guilty on December 5, 2005 to substance delivery/manufacture marijuana; sentenced on January 9, 2006 to serve 90 days in jail with credit for two days served; ordered to pay \$60 state minimum costs and \$60 crime victim rights fee, \$120 restitution and \$300 circuit court costs; placed on probation for 18 months; ordered to serve one month of jail time forthwith, with remaining days to be held in abeyance.

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GMS names students of the month



The students selected as Grayling Middle School Students of the Month for February are, from the left: (back row) Kyle Ahnert, Michaelle Bear, Valerie Clower, James Day, Melissa Eckstrom, Lindy Elford, Makenzie Harwood, Iva Haven, Ciara Johnson; (front row) Andrew Merithew, Cody Nichols, Darin Peters, Stephen Rathbun, Robert Ryan, Travis Schreiber, Brent Steffey, Ryan Teeple, Ashley Williams; (not pictured) Gracie Calkins, Brittany Carney and Andrea Malm.

HONORS

Crawford AuSable School District

The Crawford AuSable School Board of Education recognized eleven Grayling High School football players whose GPA was high enough to earn Honorable Mention in the MHSFCA (Michigan High School Football Coaches Association) Academic All State Football Team for Division 4. They are: Zac Baker, Reagan Schmidt, Matthew Larson, Eli VanNuck, Dustin Parens, Nick Parkinson, Hank Abney, Jeff Bancroft, Justin Riehle, Ryan Cooper and Jason Dudge.

Zac Baker's GPA earned him Special Mention in the MHSFCA 2005 Academic All State Individuals.

The Crawford AuSable Board of Education recognized Grayling High School band students: Austin Andrus, Lacey Hollingsworth, Stephanie Howe, Ashley Jurkovich, Alexandra

Mosel, Robert Ramaswamy, Emily Sloan, Leigha Stevens and Christopher Wells, for working with Dr. Robert Spradling from Western Michigan University on Dec. 3 and 4 and performed at the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District 2 High School Honors Band.

Michigan Tech University
More than 1,400 students were placed on the fall 2005 Dean's List at Michigan Technological University, earning grade point averages of 3.5 or higher.

Dr. Les Cook, vice president for student affairs, reports that 335 students (indicated by asterisks) earned straight A averages of 4.0 with 1,082 attaining GPAs from 3.50 to 3.99.

The following students from our area were honored:
Darryl P. Babbitt, Sophomore, Engineering Undeclared of Frederic. Andrew R. Cornelius,

Freshman, Computer Science; Zach J. Edel*, Junior, Mechanical Engineering; Matthew J. Heath, Freshman, Electrical Engineering; Christopher F. Miller, Junior, Mechanical Engineering all of Gaylord. Travis R. Brush, Freshman, Civil Engineering; Tyler S. Cragg, Freshman, Engineering Undeclared; Nicholas A. Henning, Freshman, Biological Sciences; Tracy L. Payne*, Freshman, Business; all of Grayling. Sarah M. Bradley, Senior, Mechanical Engineering; Allyson W. Diola*, Junior, Biomedical Engineering; Jeffrey A. Katalenich*, Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering; Amanda J. Scott, Freshman, Mechanical Engineering, all of Roscommon.

Northwestern Michigan College
Arrow Francisco has been named to the Northwestern



Arrow Francisco

Michigan College Dean's List for Fall Semester 2005.

Only students who have earned a 3.5 or higher GPA while taking 12 or more hours of credit are eligible for this distinction. The honor is one of the most widely respected academic awards at the college level.

She is the daughter of Reda Francisco.

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Film to be viewed at mentoring program

Coordinators for the "Life's Better With a Mentor" program of Crawford County are inviting parents and their families to come and share in an evening filled with promise at the Grayling High School.

The program is aimed at raising awareness about mentoring relationships and will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7 in the Grayling High School auditorium.

During the program the audience will view an hour of David Sutherland's recent hit film "Country Boys." Ester Smith, the coordinator for Crawford County's 4-H "Life's Better With a Mentor" program, describes the film as a fascinating, honest portrait of rural youth today, and gives good examples of positive youth/adult relationships.

Those who attend the event and choose to be part of the positive impact mentoring has on children in Crawford County will be credited with a hour of mentor training.

Applications for the "Life's Better With a Mentor" program will also be available after the film, Smith said.

For more information, call Smith at 344-3274.



Cody Perkins, shown above playing guitar with musician Ray Riddle, is one of the youngsters featured in the film "Country Boys."

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Kirtland reminds parents that February is prime time to apply for financial aid

February is Financial Aid Awareness Month meaning that, for parents of college-bound students, this is the time to investigate the many financial assistance programs available.

There's no need to be intimidated by the prospect of applying for financial aid as millions of families do it successfully each year. According to the College Board, a nonprofit association of more than 4,500 institutions of higher learning, more than half the students currently enrolled nationwide in college receive some sort of financial aid to help pay for college.

Financial aid could make a difference in a student's life. It may be the difference between being able to continue an education or not. Or it could mean being able to attend the school of choice despite higher tuition costs.

The goal of financial aid programs is to reduce or eliminate the economic barriers that prevent a student from fulfilling educational plans. Financial aid covers the education costs that a family can't pay for.

Most financial aid is awarded to students on the basis of eligibility or need. If a family is unable to contribute the entire cost of an education, financial aid is available to help bridge the gap.

Though the price of college may cause concern among some families, the costs associated with not going to college may be much greater. According to the U.S. Census Bureau statistics, those with a bachelor's degree or higher can expect to earn \$1 million more over their lifetime than those with a high school diploma.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, is the first financial-aid application form needed to apply for fed-

eral student aid. The U.S. Department of Education uses the information on the FAFSA to determine eligibility for aid from federal student financial assistance programs. Many schools and states rely solely on this information. For the most part, colleges give preference to those who apply by their priority deadline - usually sometime in February or March.

The FAFSA comes in two versions - paper and electronic. The paper version is available from high school counselors or the financial aid office of a local college. A paper application can also be obtained by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (433-3243).

The FAFSA can also be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Filing the FAFSA online can reduce processing time by one to two weeks. The data is checked before it is transmitted to the processing center, thereby reducing the chance of error.

Filling out the tax return first will make completing the FAFSA easier. However, you do not need to submit the return to the IRS before the FAFSA is submitted. Estimated income can be used and updated later when the actual tax return is filed.

Once the FAFSA is submitted it goes to a large processing center that handles the nine million requests for aid received each year. Either an e-mail or a paper form from the Department of Education's Central Processing System will be generated within a few days to a few weeks of submitting the FAFSA. The form, which is called the Student Aid Report, or SAR, summarizes the information provided on the FAFSA. It will also list the expected family contribution - the

amount the federal government calculates a family can contribute toward the cost of education.

If an asterisk can be seen next to the EFC figure, it means the application has been randomly selected for "verification." Colleges receiving the SAR will request copies of signed tax returns or other information to verify the accuracy of the information on the FAFSA.

The information will also be sent to the colleges listed on the FAFSA. Those colleges will develop financial aid packages based on the expected family contribution, the cost of the college and the student's level of need. Be sure to provide all information requested by the college in order to prevent delays in receiving award notifications.

More than half of all undergraduate students receive some sort of financial aid, either in the form of grants, scholarships, loans or work-study programs. All students, regardless of financial need, can qualify for low-interest federal loans through the Stafford loan program.

First consider accepting grants, scholarships and other aid that does not have to be repaid, before accepting a student loan. Accepting a loan means accepting the responsibility of repaying it.

Questions about the application or about federal student aid in general can be directed to the Federal Student Aid Hotline Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID. Calls should be answered Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to midnight, EST; and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. EST. During extended hours, now through Feb. 27, customer service representatives will be available from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturdays and from 1-7 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information on eligibility requirements and the U.S. Department of Education's student aid programs, look on the Internet at <http://studentaid.ed.gov>.

For more information about financial aid programs at Kirtland Community College, call Christin Horndt, financial aid director, at 989-275-5000, ext. 257, or visit the Financial Aid Web site at <http://kirtland.edu/business/financialaid/Default.htm>

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The Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Club selected Milltown Title and Escrow as the January Spotlight-a-Member. Employees at Milltown Title (L to R) are: Mary Varty, Laurie Figley, Johanna Jurkovich, Kimberly Porter, Wanda Jackson, and Lynn Porritt-McConnell (not pictured).

Chamber spotlights Milltown Title in January

The January Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Club Spotlight-a-Member Award recipient was Milltown Title and Escrow Company.

Milltown Title and Escrow Co. was established in 1986 in the law office of a local attorney on Michigan Avenue, downtown Grayling. In the beginning the title company had one employee running the day to day operations of the business, while also serving as a legal secretary to the attorney.

After the course of one year the title business grew to be more than a part-time position. At this time Milltown Title hired its first

full-time employee. During this period of growth, Milltown Title added closing and escrow to the services the company provided for its customers.

Due to an increase in the volume of business the title company hired its second employee. In 1998, Laurie Figley joined Milltown Title. As the business continued to grow it added additional employees, moved to the South I-75 Business Loop and Figley worked her way up to be the manager of the title company.

In the late 90's the business went through two significant changes. In 1997 Figley purchased the business and became the owner/operator and moved

the business from the business loop to the current location of 502 Norway Street.

At the present location Title Examiner Wanda Jackson; Closing Administrators Kimberly Porter and Johanna Jurkovich; Services Specialist Mary Varty and Closing Agent Lynn Porritt-McConnell assist Figley.

"At Milltown Title and Escrow Company, the primary goal is to provide excellent, professional and accurate service in a friendly environment," said Figley.

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank the following people for all their hardwork, advice, flowers and inspiring words; Jacky McKerchie, Shawn LaFleche, Bill Peace, Tim Zigala, Jerry Keelan, Bob DeLong, Dharma Records, Doug Meroney, Ingunn Warsko, Theresa Kaiser, Davis Jewellery and to my loyal friends and customers who have followed me to my new business.

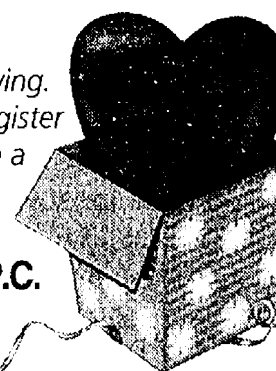
Sincerely,
Connie and Gordon Beard
Xpress Copy Center

Valentine Drawing

During the month of February, Toupin Chiropractic will be holding a Valentine Drawing. Stop in anytime throughout the month to register your favorite sweetie. The winner will receive a valentine goodies basket! Drawing will be held Monday, February 27.

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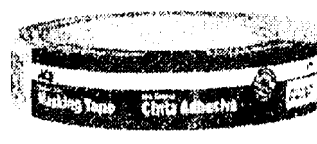
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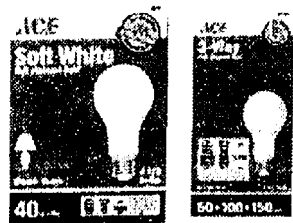
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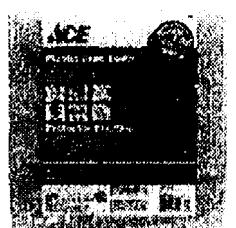
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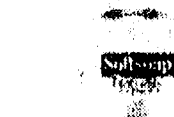
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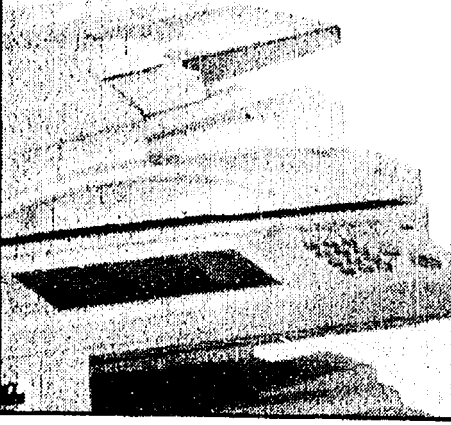
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Connie Beard opened the Xpress Copy Center in the Grayling Mercantile Building located at 127 Michigan Ave. on Jan. 16.

Xpress Copy Center opens doors downtown

by Dan Sanderson
 Staff Writer

A familiar face has opened a new business in downtown Grayling, providing help with promotional materials for area businesses and organizations.

Connie Beard opened the Xpress Copy Center in the Grayling Mercantile Building located at 127 Michigan Ave. on Jan. 16.

The Xpress Copy Center offers black and white and color copies, blue print copies and a self-serve copier. The business also provides business cards and stationery, flyers and brochures as well as forms and invoices.

Beard can also scan items and

provide custom graphic design service to customers. She also can create wedding invitations, graduation announcements, banners and signs and provide laminating service.

"As my business grows, the services that I offer customers will grow," Beard said.

Xpress Copy Center offers fax service as well as wireless Internet connection for area residents and traveling businessmen and women.

Beard can provide next day service as well as delivery. Her husband, Gordon Beard, the grounds keeper for Mercy Hospital Grayling, is working as a part-time employee at the business.

Beard previously worked in the composition department at the Crawford County Avalanche and was the manager for the Copy Shop in Grayling for six years. She received her graphic design certificate from Alpena Community College.

"I've always wanted to own and operate my own copy center, and decided to go forward with this so I will have no regrets in the future," Beard said. "I look forward to continuing to serve the people of Grayling."

Xpress Copy Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Hospital-related rehabilitation exempt from new law

Medicare patients requiring outpatient physical, speech, or occupational therapies in 2006 will find restrictions on what is covered annually under Medicare Part B. However, hospital-affiliated rehabilitation departments such as Mercy Hospital Grayling's outpatient rehabilitation services are exempt.

Kourtney Cingano, director of Mercy Rehab services, said new Medicare Part B rules as of Jan. 1 mean that "unless you go to a hospital-affiliated physical rehab department, after the first \$1,740 per patient, per year, the patient will be required to pay for all additional services." The limits do not apply to therapy provided directly to inpatients, or under the arrangements by a hospital to an outpatient.

Medicare recipients will have a limited amount of dollars available to them to cover outpatient therapy services that are medically necessary. Rules allow for \$1,740 per year for physical therapy and speech therapy combined, and \$1,740 for occupational therapy services.

If a Medicare beneficiary

chooses to use a therapy department not affiliated with a hospital, there are some factors to consider:

The \$1,740 is per year, not per incident. If a recipient has knee therapy in January, and needs shoulder therapy in June, the money comes from the same pool of \$1,740. Amounts of money used are tracked by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, but sometimes the information can lag if a provider sends bills late. If another provider checks the account in the meantime, it could appear more money is available putting the user at risk for charges that exceed the limit.

The \$1,740 includes the amount the patient pays in deductibles and co-insurance. For example, if a patient's therapy bill is \$1,000, Medicare Part B will pay 80 percent (\$800) and the patient, 20 percent (\$200). The amount taken from the \$1,740 cap is \$1,000, even though the patient paid \$200 of the amount.

Once the \$1,740 is spent, the patient will either have to pay

100 percent out of pocket or switch to a hospital-affiliated therapy provider such as Mercy's Rehabilitation Department, Cingano said. The therapy provider is required to inform the patient when the limit is reached and the patient becomes responsible for further treatment costs.

For example, an average course of treatment for someone who has undergone knee-replacement surgery is four to six weeks of therapeutic exercise. A half-hour session is \$55.42, plus 15 minutes of manual treatment at \$26.25 for a total of \$81.67. Multiplied by three times per week for a total of \$245.01, the four-week treatment will cost \$980.04.

Patients who prefer using the same therapist throughout the treatment and anticipate a greater expense than the Medicare allows, should contact Mercy Hospital Grayling's Rehabilitation Department at (989) 348-0314. For more information on Medicare Part B caps, call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE or go to their website at www.cms.hhs.gov.

Card of Thanks

On behalf of the dogs and cats at the shelter, we would like to thank the following people and businesses who helped make the 2nd Annual Snowmobile Fun Run such a great success:

All the riders and participants; Mary Becker and Washington Mortgage Company; Randy Thompson and Jerry Gosnell of Century 21 River Country Real Estate; Pat Thompson; Greg Laudenslager and the staff of The Ole Barn; The Modos family and the staff of Dingman's Bar; Paula Harwood and the staff of the Sawmill Tavern; Dean Smith and the staff of the Holiday Inn; Linda Golnick and the Crawford County Avalanche; Bill Gannon and Gannon Broadcasting; WUPS - Prudenville; Erin Ovalle and Josh Hagadorn, 7&4 News;

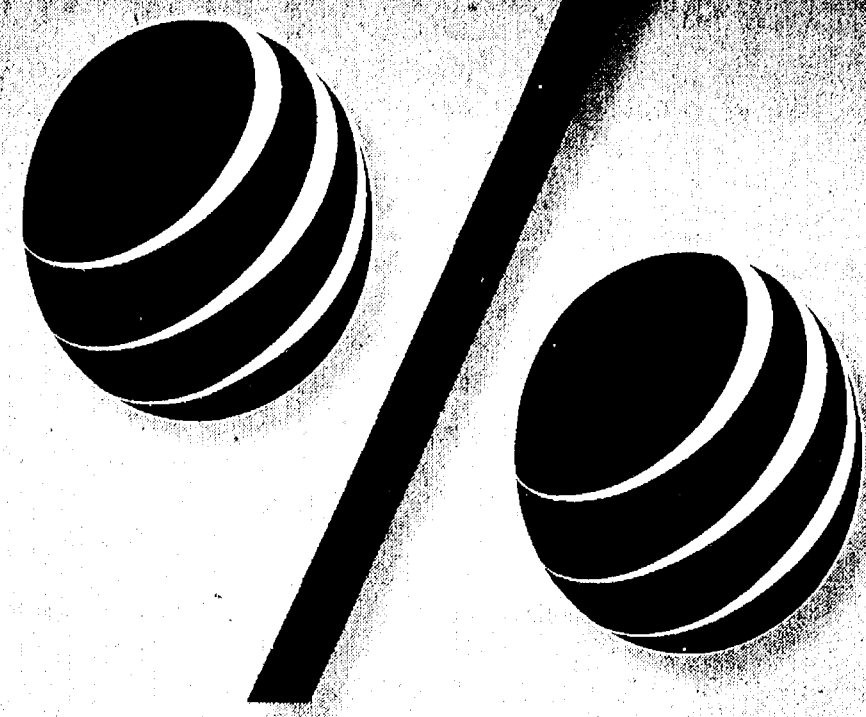
9 and 10 News; Jane Kozlowski, Mary Garmo and Title Direct; Marshall Distributing; Extreme Power Sports; Dee Jay's Gifts and Collectibles; AuSable Woodworking Company; Grayling Auto Repair; Great Lakes Roofing; J. Dap Co.;

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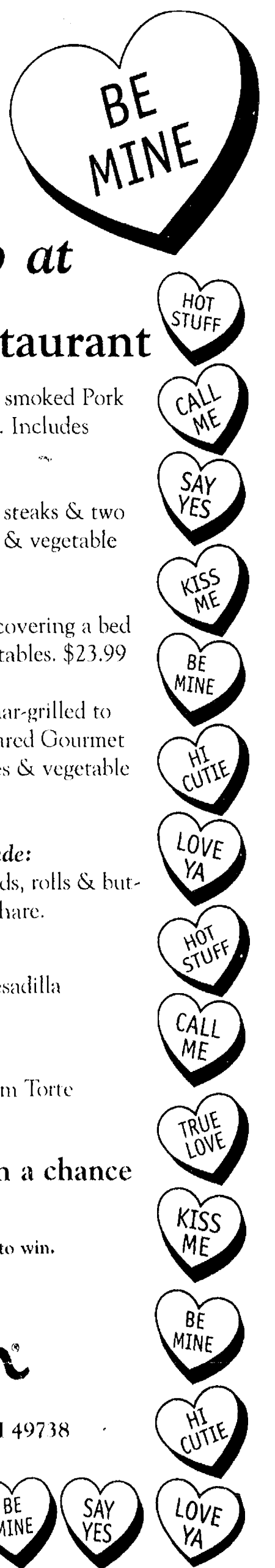
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Unemployment benefits are taxable

Tax season has arrived, and the state of Michigan has already begun mailing out year-end statements to anyone who received unemployment benefits in 2005.

"Unemployment benefits are taxable, and those who received benefits will need these statements to prepare their 2005 state and federal tax returns," Sharon Bommarito, director of Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA), explained.

The statements, called 1099-G or "Statement for Recipients of Unemployment Compensation Payments," report how much individuals received in unemployment benefits last year. The annual statements are prepared by the UIA.

"We began the process of mailing 547,376 1099-G forms on Jan. 12," Bommarito said. "and we'll complete the mailing by Jan. 31."

Starting on Feb. 1, those with questions about their 1099-G or who did not receive the statement can telephone UIA or visit an agency Problem Resolution Office (PRO) for help.

"Customer service representatives staffing our telephone filed claims line, our Customer Relations hotline and our PROs will have the information they need by Feb. 1 to help those with questions about their 1099-G statements," Bommarito said.

The toll-free telephone num-

bers are: Telephone filed claims: 1-866-500-0017, select the "inquiry" option - staffed 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F. Customer Relations Hotline: 1-800-638-3995 - staffed 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., M-F. The local UIA Problem Resolution Office is located in Gaylord, 400 W. Main St., open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

One frequent question about the 1099-G statement concerns the amount of compensation it reports.

"The total compensation figure on the statement includes not only the amount of benefits paid but also any restitution or court ordered deductions, such as Friend of the Court payments," Bommarito explained. "Because of these required deductions, jobless workers may have actually received less than what is reported on the 1099-G. We advise those with these types of deductions to consult with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to learn how these deductions affect their taxes and for instructions about reporting them."

If workers chose to have state and federal income taxes deducted from their unemployment benefits in 2005, the 1099-G also reports the amount of taxes withheld.

Bommarito noted that the agency is also required to send the 1099-G information to the IRS and the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Medication disposal raises environmental questions

by Jennifer Linn
Capital News Service

Improper disposal of prescription drugs and greater use of dishwasher detergents are affecting Michigan streams, inland lakes and the Great Lakes.

Prescription drugs can work wonders fighting infections, but what effect can they have on the environment?

If disposed of improperly, they can pollute watersheds, according to the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. The effects of hormonal matter from medications left in water are unknown, but researchers are beginning to observe hormonal changes in fish, the MUCC said.

The U.S. Geological Survey's Toxic Substances Hydrology Program has studied levels of pharmaceuticals, hormones and other organic wastewater contaminants in streams across the country. Of the 130 streams tested nationwide, more than 80

percent contained organic contaminants.

Dick Schwikert, secretary of the Pere Marquette Watershed Council, said that pharmaceutical pollution is a fairly new issue.

"It's kind of an up-and-coming problem, but not really affecting our part of the state yet," he said.

Streams and lakes become contaminated with pharmaceutical and organic matter mainly in two ways: Contaminants not filtered out in treatment plants and pollution from runoff from farm fields and storm sewers.

Sand is the No. 1 contaminant in watersheds in northwestern Michigan, said Schwikert, but phosphorous is another contaminant that is gaining attention in that part of the state.

Phosphorous in dishwasher detergent enters the watershed through residential use.

When phosphorous is released into aquatic areas, it decreases oxygen levels in water. With the

lower oxygen levels, it is harder for fish and other aquatic species to survive. Phosphorous also increases the amount of algae that grows in lakes. The algae can be seen along the surface of lakes leaving a green, slimy appearance.

"More people are moving north, more dishwashers are being installed," said Schwikert. "Dishwasher detergent is the only soap that isn't regulated for phosphorous amounts."

So what does this mean for Michigan?

According to MUCC, pollution of watersheds could harm Michigan's economy. If fishing, which is a major tourist attraction in Michigan, suffers a loss, small towns that thrive on tourism could suffer.

"Think of all of the bait shops, hotels, restaurants, charter trips that depend on hunting and fishing," said Sam Washington, MUCC executive director.

Ask the Specialists: Medicare Part D on CMU Public Television

CMU Public Television will hold a live forum to answer questions about Medicare Part D on a special one-hour edition of the weekly series, Ask the Specialists. Ask the Specialists: Medicare Part D airs Thursday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m. Panelists include Shannon Patrick, Mt. Pleasant Social Security Administration and Tina Waters, Isabella Commission on Aging. Two other panelists will be announced at a later date. Viewers may call 1-800-727-9268 during the program to ask questions of the panelists and also submit questions prior to the show to brian.d.baker@cmich.edu.

Medicare Part D, designed to provide those who are eligible with prescription drug coverage, is the biggest change to affect Medicare in years.

WCMU program/outreach manager, Linda Dielman, said the show is being aired in response to public need. "As the May 15 deadline approaches, people are becoming more confused about the process and options. Several people have told us that seniors and their families need a program to address this perplexing issue."

Viewers' questions will be answered on the air by a live panel and phones will be staffed by knowledgeable volunteers from Social Security and Commissions on Aging from our coverage area. "We're using a tried and true TV show to get eligible seniors and others in touch with help from trained experts who can address individual situations," adds Brian Baker, Ask the Specialists series producer.

For more than fifteen years,

CMU Public TV has provided viewers with answers to their most important questions on "Ask the Specialists." Every Thursday night area doctors, lawyers, dentists and other professionals provide expert advice in response to questions asked during these live TV broadcasts. The schedule of broadcasts is available at wcmu.org/tv. Questions can be posed ahead of time by contacting series producer Brian Baker at (989) 774-2557, or emailing brian.d.baker@cmich.edu. More information is available at that number and address.

CMU Public Television includes WCMU Channel 14 Mt. Pleasant, WCMW Channel 21 Manistee, WCMV Channel 27 Cadillac, Channel 46 Traverse City and Channel 69 Leland.

Munson surgeons reattach Mio man's hand

Phillip Miller of Mio slipped while preparing to change the blades on a wood chipper at his family's sawmill. The machine's rotor smashed his right hand - and then the blades took it off about an inch above the wrist.

"I got a call from ER, Monday, Jan. 16, about 4 p.m. for a hand amputation in the Mio area," said Paul Jacobson, MD, a Munson Medical Center hand surgeon. Mark Leslie, MD, also a Munson hand surgeon, received the same call. An operating room team joined the surgeons as the young Amish man - and his separated hand packed in ice - arrived with a North Flight helicopter crew. The helicopter intercepted an MMR ambulance about 20 minutes into the 83-mile trip to Traverse City.

Flight nurse Palmer Greene said an Oscoda EMT crew responded to the sawmill. MMR paramedics out of Grayling intercepted the Oscoda ambulance and established an IV and administered pain medication. The chopper met the ambulance at M-72 and M-18, about 15 miles east of Grayling. It spent less than 10

minutes on the ground.

Joseph Miller, Phillip's father, said when the ambulance crew arrived at his house they asked him to get Phillip's hand. He never considered the possibility it could be restored to his son's arm. "We went over and opened up the machine," Joseph Miller said. "It was lying there. It had a glove on it." Oscoda EMTs packed the hand in ice.

Jacobson said the challenge for the surgical team proved greater than the first hand reattachment that took place at Munson Medical Center about 18 months ago. "About half of it was cut off and about half of it was torn off," he said. "It was nowhere near a clean amputation."

The surgical team spent six hours in the operating room reattaching the hand. For the first hour Jacobson worked preparing Phillip Miller's arm, while Leslie and other operating room staff worked on the hand that had been sterilized and put on new ice. Because of the contact with the machine's rotor, Jacobson said there were broken fingers on the hand that needed to be set.

Operating room nurse Kate Ellison ensured there were two sets of surgical equipment, one for the surgeon working on the patient and the other for surgeon preparing the severed limb. "You just have to be organized," she said. In addition to the surgeons and Ellison, the operating room team included an anesthesiologist and a scrub technician.

"The first hour is prep work, and then after that the two of us work together until it is complete," Jacobson said. "It's totally a team approach, and the operating room staff did a beautiful job."

Jacobson said Miller's hand looked pink 20 hours after surgery - a good sign.

By Wednesday morning, Miller showed more progress. "He's moving his thumb," Joseph Miller said. "He says he has a little tingling in his fingers."

Jacobson said the prognosis is good. "He should have a functional hand when all is said and done." In his five years at Munson, Jacobson said he has performed about a dozen digit replacements and only one other hand reattachment.

Kirtland enters challenge to sign up tissue donors

Kirtland Community College challenges everyone to be part of the solution when it comes to saving lives through organ and tissue donations. Kirtland's

honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, is sponsoring an organ and tissue donor drive as part of the Gift of Life University Challenge.

Participating schools have

until Feb. 19 to encourage as many people as possible to sign the state's Gift of Life Donor Registry, although the potential life-giving gift of a donated organ or tissue extends far beyond this timeline.

To sign the registry, log on to the Internet at www.giftoflifemichigan.org and follow the links for the University Challenge. It's fast and easy. Be sure to enter Kirtland Community College in the University Challenge box.

For those without Internet access, or who wish to receive more information on Gift of Life Michigan, call 1-800-482-4881, or write to them at 2203 Platt Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

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MAD HATTERS



Photo by Dan Sanderson

Youth at the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library took part in a kids in libraryland scavenger hunt last week, which had an Alice In Wonderland theme. The library was marking the birthday of the late Lewis Carroll, the author of the book "Alice In Wonderland." Above, Chase Lore, 7, and Andrew Wojdan, 6, enjoy a bottle of "mad hatter special blend" after taking part in the scavenger hunt.

GRAYLING POLICE REPORT

Grayling City Police Chief Karl Schreiner reports his department handled the following during the week of Jan. 22 - Jan. 29:

Two misdemeanor arrests, three traffic accidents, four traffic warnings, one misdemeanor citation, three assist other depart-

ments, two larceny complaints, four disturbing the peace complaints, two city ordinance violations, one civil complaint, one

motorist assist, one traffic control, two juvenile complaints, one assault complaint and five unclassified complaints.

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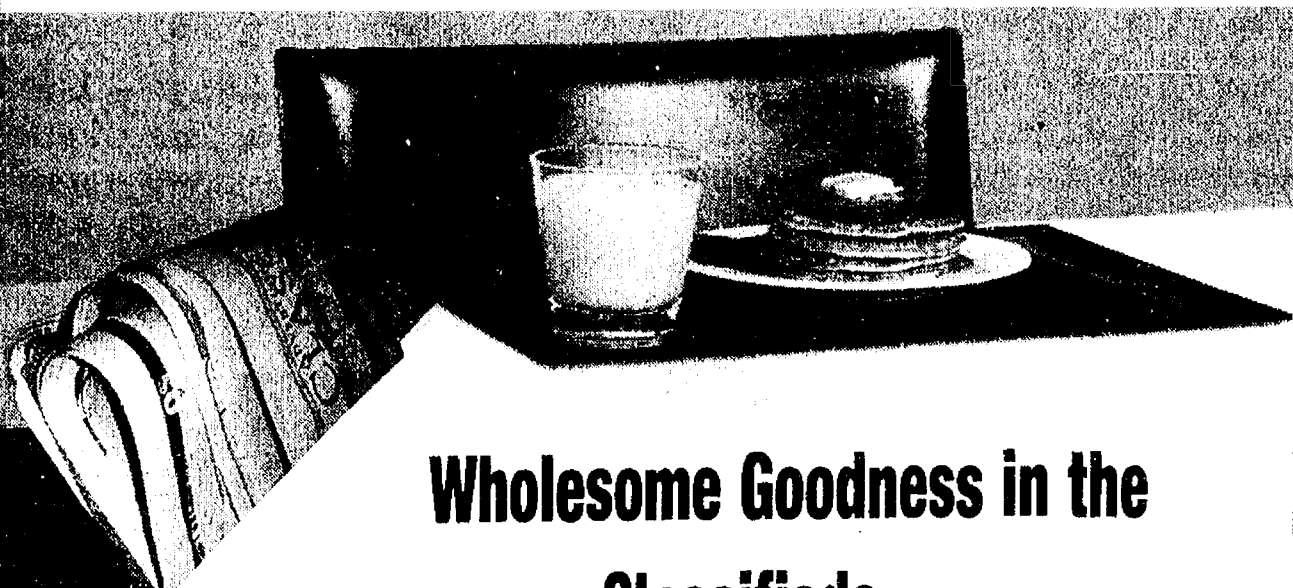
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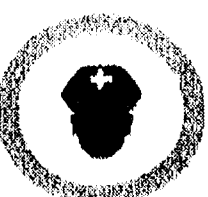
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How to Plan a Wedding on a Budget

From ice sculptures to fancy stretch limos to a wedding dress that costs more than your mortgage payment — with all these wedding temptations, how can you possibly stay on budget and still have the wedding of your dreams? Wedding experts offer the following tips to keep your budget in-check:

Borrow what you can. Know a friend, neighbor or family member who recently got married? Ask to borrow their cake server, wedding slip, veil, headpiece, centerpiece items or even wedding dress.

Become centerpiece savvy. Use candles to spice up centerpieces, such as using votives on top of a mirror with small accents of flowers or balloons. Have bridesmaids use their bouquets as reception centerpieces, and your wedding ceremony flowers can pull double-duty, too. Or pile nicely wrapped favors in a bowl or basket at the center of each table.

Factor in the season, day and time. Avoid the busy summer wedding months or the holidays, when prices can be 10 percent higher. Winter weddings — January through March — tend to provide the best deals. Consider planning

your wedding on a day other than Saturday to save money, too: Fridays evenings and Sunday afternoons are popular alternatives. Receptions earlier in the day tend to be cheaper than a dinner buffet or a five-course sit-down dinner, so consider an afternoon tea, cocktail reception, lunch or brunch.

Shop the bargains. Attend bridal shows to collect special savings coupons for bargains on wedding vendors and rentals. Some stores may offer discounts for multiple purchases — such as discounts on your bridesmaid dresses, veil and shoes when you buy your wedding dress there, also.

Look to cheaper alternatives for invitations. Thermography typeset is less expensive than engraved invitations. Also be sure to watch the weight of your invitations — from the size of the paper to all of your enclosures — so you don't have to double up on stamps. Consider designing and printing invitations and programs yourself to cut costs. You might opt for cheaper, plain-style wedding invitations and then embellish them by adding ribbon, lace or silk, or dried flowers, say experts.

Get gown savvy. Watch the sales, and buy off the rack.

Scout sample sales where you can nab dresses for 25 to 95 percent off regular prices.

Flower power. Consider using silk flowers, which often can be cheaper than real ones and can even be reused to decorate your home. Mix in berries, fruit or greenery fillers to create large centerpieces or bouquets at lower costs, and use flowers that are in-season. Try a grocery store's flower department, which might offer better deals than regular florists. Another way to spruce up your locale: Borrow plants or trees from friends, or rent them from a florist.

Affordable photography. Find a photographer who will let you keep your negatives. That way you can avoid paying high prices for reprints or enlargements. Hire a capable photography college student, but evaluate the quality of the student's work first.

Fancying food. Instead of serving lobster and shrimp, make less expensive foods fancier. Ask the caterer what other affairs' menus they are preparing on the same day and if you can serve the same items. Caterers might be able to order and charge for the food at discounted bulk rates.

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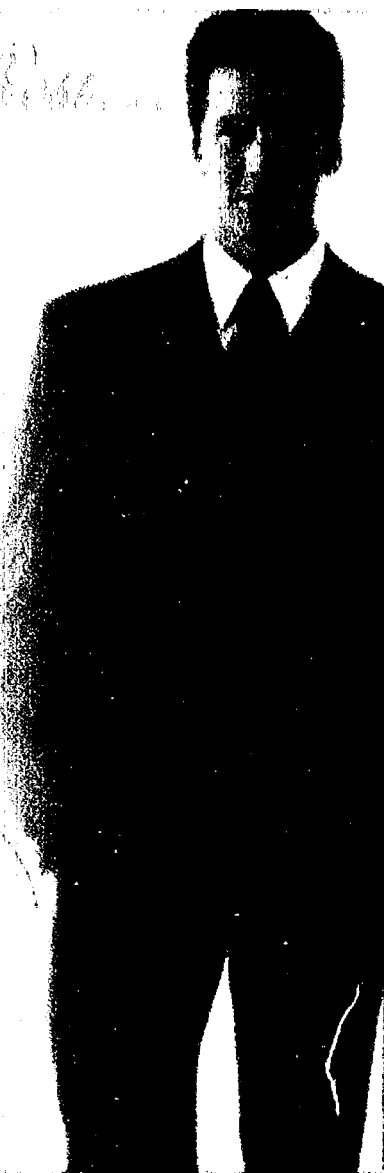
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Grayling wins 72-67 in overtime at Roscommon

Vikings hit three-pointer at fourth quarter buzzer to force OT

■ **Vikings move to 9-1 overall with non-conference win vs. RHS Bucks**

by Caleb Casey
Senior Staff Writer

A three-pointer by Grayling at the fourth quarter buzzer forced overtime, and the Vikings went on to defeat the Roscommon Bucks 72-67 in OT in last Tuesday's varsity boys basketball contest at RHS.

The Vikings started slow and trailed 13-10 after one quarter. The Bucks had a 25-23 lead at halftime, and Roscommon led 43-42 going into the fourth period.

Roscommon hit the first basket of the fourth quarter to lead by three, 45-42. A jump shot by Reagan Schmidt and a drive by Eli VanNuck gave GHS a 46-45 advantage. A put-back by Roscommon put the Bucks up by one point.

Bobby Starks, fouled on a lay-up attempt, scored the basket and the free throw for a three-point play. Two free throws by VanNuck gave GHS a 51-47 lead with 5:29 left in regulation.

A three-pointer by Roscommon cut Grayling's advantage to one. A jump shot by VanNuck put the Vikings up by three, 53-50. Two free throws and a put-back by Roscommon gave the Bucks a one-point lead, 54-53, at the 3:36 mark.

A jump shot by Starks put the Vikings ahead by one with 1:54

Continued on Page 14B

See "GRAYLING..."



Zach Dean fights for position under the basket during Tuesday's contest at Roscommon.

Photos by Caleb Casey

Vikings defeat Boyne City in rematch, 68-54

■ **Grayling improves Lake Michigan Conference record to 6-1 with Friday's win**

by Caleb Casey
Senior Staff Writer

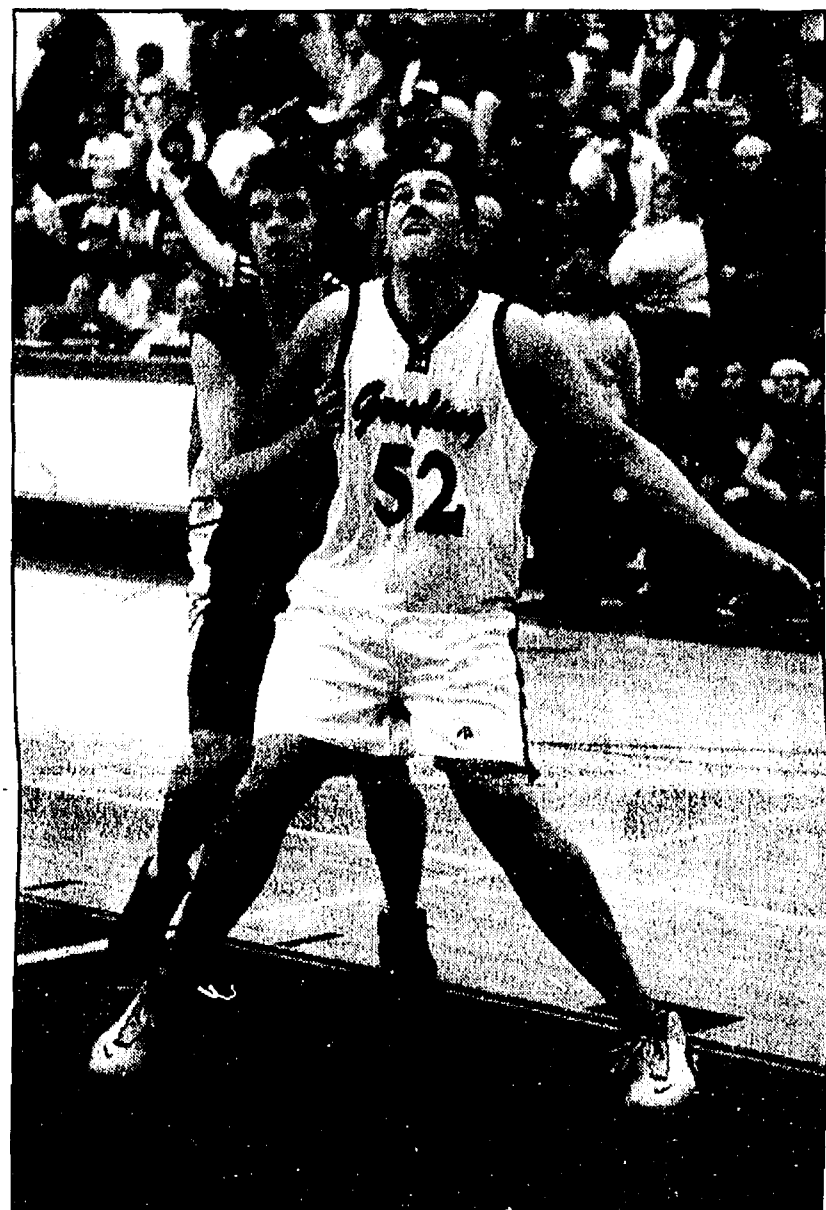
The GHS varsity boys basketball team took a 9-1 overall record into Friday night's home game against the Boyne City Ramblers – the only team to beat the Vikings so far this

season. This time around, Grayling won 68-54 to improve the squad's Lake Michigan Conference record to 6-1 (10-1 overall).

The Vikings led 21-12 after one quarter of play. Grayling had an 11-point advantage at halftime, 38-27. GHS took a 51-42 lead into the fourth period.

Continued on Page 6B

See "VIKINGS..."



Mike Boylan boxes out on a rebound opportunity during Friday's game against Boyne City.

Local team wins 6th Tip-Up Town softball title



A team from Grayling won its sixth consecutive Tip-Up Town Softball On Ice championship this past weekend, posting a 3-0 record in the annual tournament held on the ice of Houghton Lake during the Tip-Up Town winter festival. The team, sponsored by Big Gator Painting this year, included: (front, left to right) Caleb Casey, D.J. Metzger, Dave Burr, Darrell Metzger; (back, left to right) Troy McDonald, Mark Burke, Russ Dehart, Travis Huber, Corey Derenzy, Dale Metzger. Not pictured: Brad Ritter.

Wrestling team splits up for two Saturday tournaments

■ **Some Vikings compete in Sault Ste. Marie event, some wrestle at Gaylord**

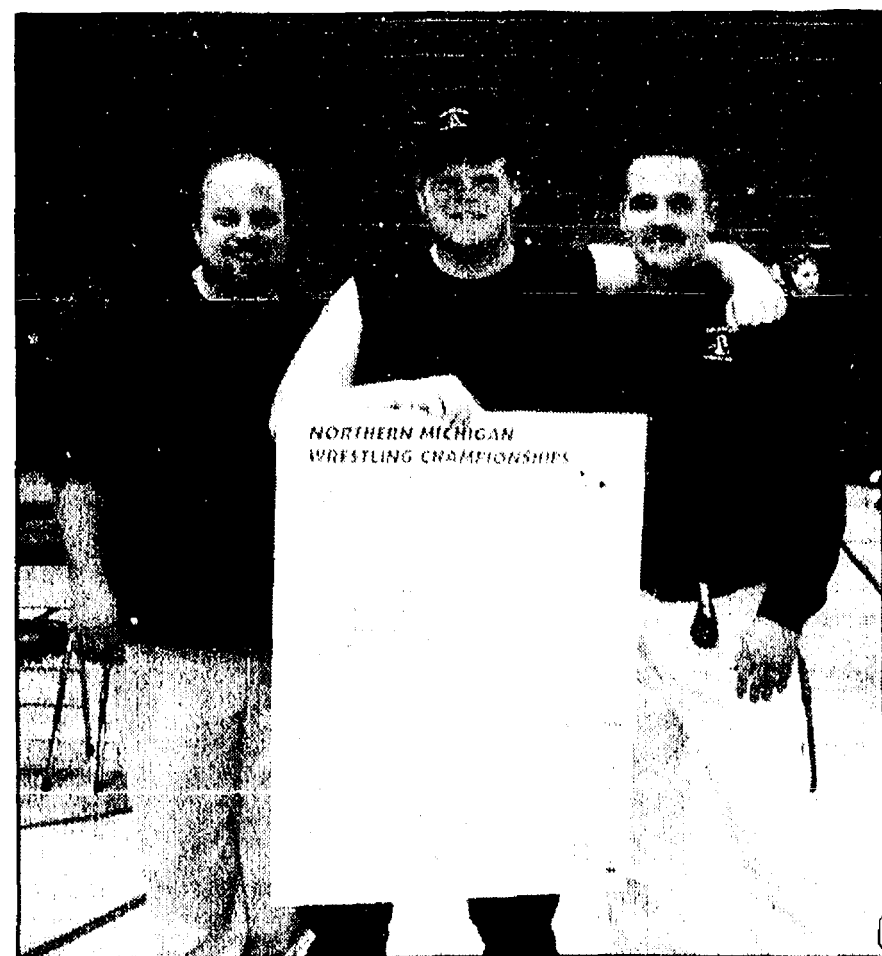
On Saturday, Jan. 28, GHS wrestling team members competed in two different tournaments. Part of the team traveled

across the bridge to wrestle in a tournament held at Sault Saint Marie and the other Vikings headed north to Gaylord to compete in the Northern Michigan Championships.

Ten Vikings won medals at the

Continued on Page 3B

See "WRESTLING..."



GHS wrestler Bill Stewart, pictured with coaches Larry Duvall (left) and Joe Ferrigan (right), took 1st place in the heavyweight division at Saturday's Northern Michigan Championships in Gaylord.

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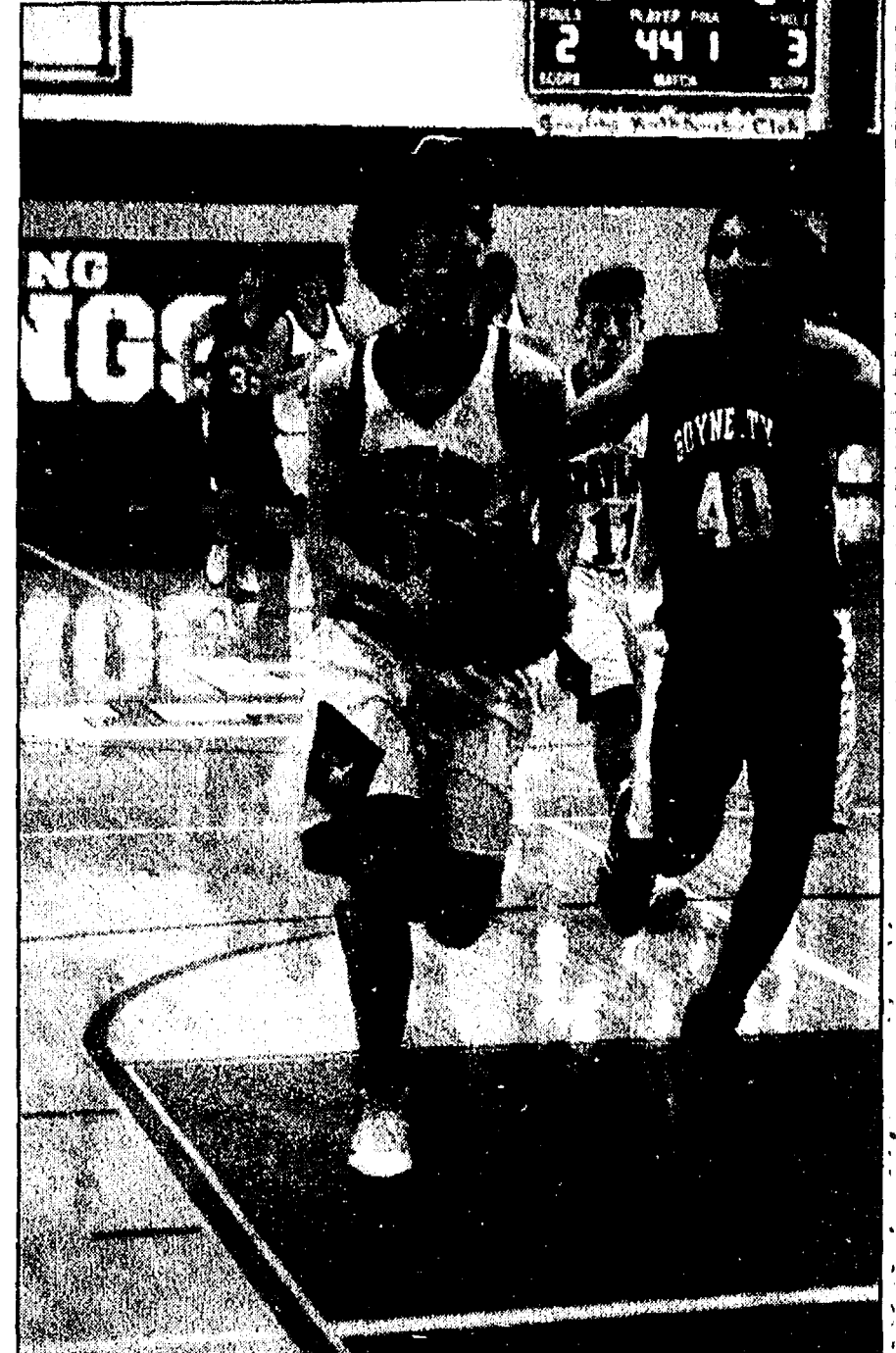


Ron Thomson

9th graders fall to Boyne in OT



Trent Larm drives to the basket for the 9th grade Vikings on Friday night.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Tyler Steffey looks to shoot for the Vikings during Friday's contest vs. the Boyne City Ramblers at GHS. The game was tied at 44-44 after four quarters, and Boyne won in overtime 52-49.

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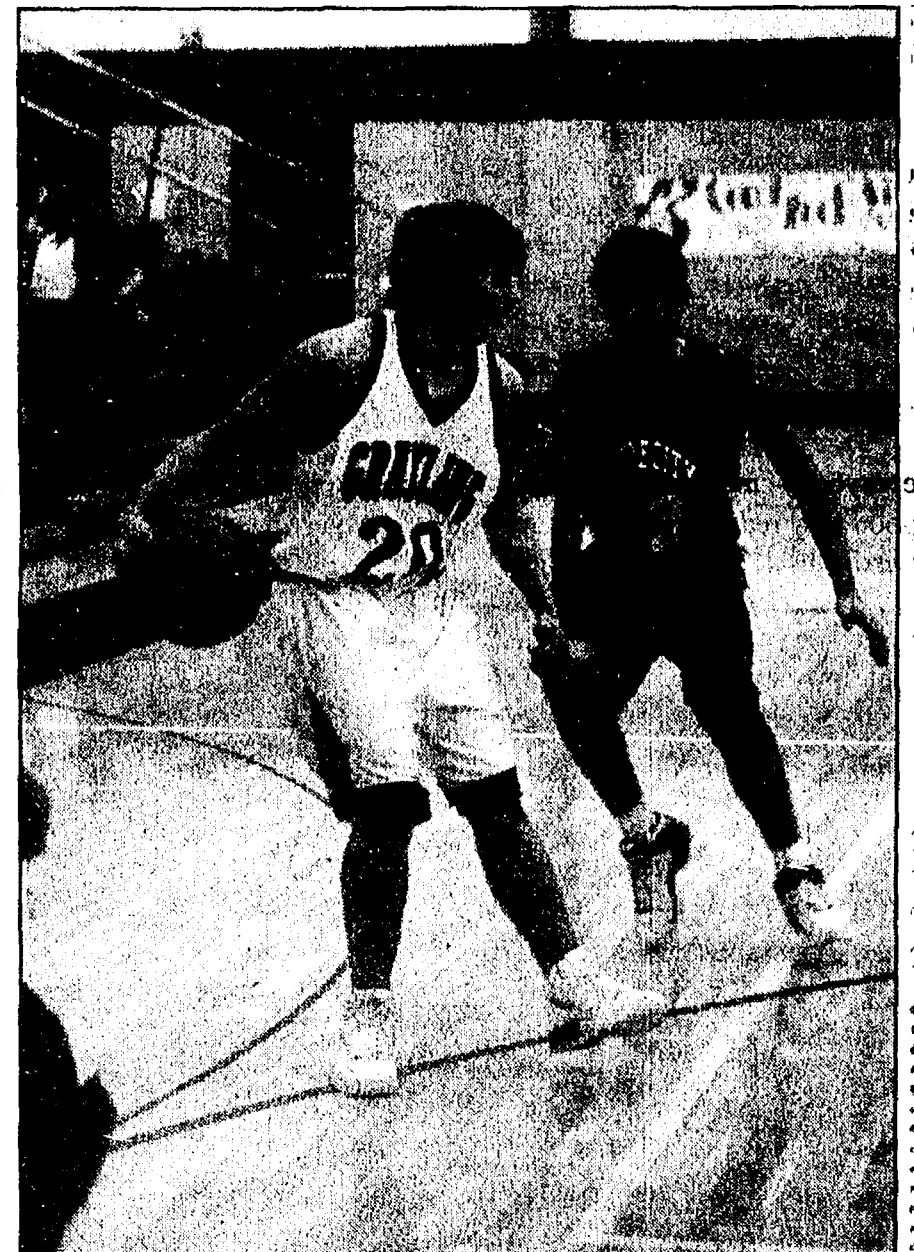
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Spencer Dean goes for a lay-up vs. Boyne City.



Jacob Aubry handles the ball for Grayling in last week's game against Boyne City.

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Vikings ski in conference meet

The GHS varsity ski team competed in a Lake Michigan Conference meet on Thursday evening. Both the boys and girls

teams skied to a 5th place finish. Harbor Springs took 1st place in both competitions.

Grayling's boys team was led by Jimmy Hilbrecht's 13th place in both slalom and giant slalom (GS).

"We were victim to a couple of crashes, and those hurt when you don't have a very deep team. The boys are starting to do some real good things, though," Coach Brad Wagner said. "Regionals are the middle of February and that's where we want to peak. We'll get it going."

"Our girls got off to a bad start. We lost Katie Baynham, our first seed skier, to an injury in warm-ups. She tried to ski her first run of slalom, but it wasn't meant to be. Cassie Pizzi skied great and helped pick up some of the slack. She also finished 13th in both events. Cassie's a sophomore and skiing really good. We ski in a really tough conference and Cassie is skiing competitively with older, more experienced girls. Hannah Smith also skied great. She's a freshman and doing good things on her skis," Coach Wagner said.

The Vikings ski at Nub's Nob on Thursday, Feb. 2.

Paul Olson

Municipal Underwriters of Michigan

Vikings of the Week



Cassie Pizzi



Jimmy Hilbrecht

Skiing
Coach: Brad Wagner
CASSIE PIZZI & JIMMY HILBRECHT

"Cassie is proving very competitive in our conference. She's skiing just over a second out of the top 10. She led our team this week in both GS and slalom. Jimmy led our team in both events this week. He's proving himself as a two-event skier. His results are getting consistently better each week," their coach said.

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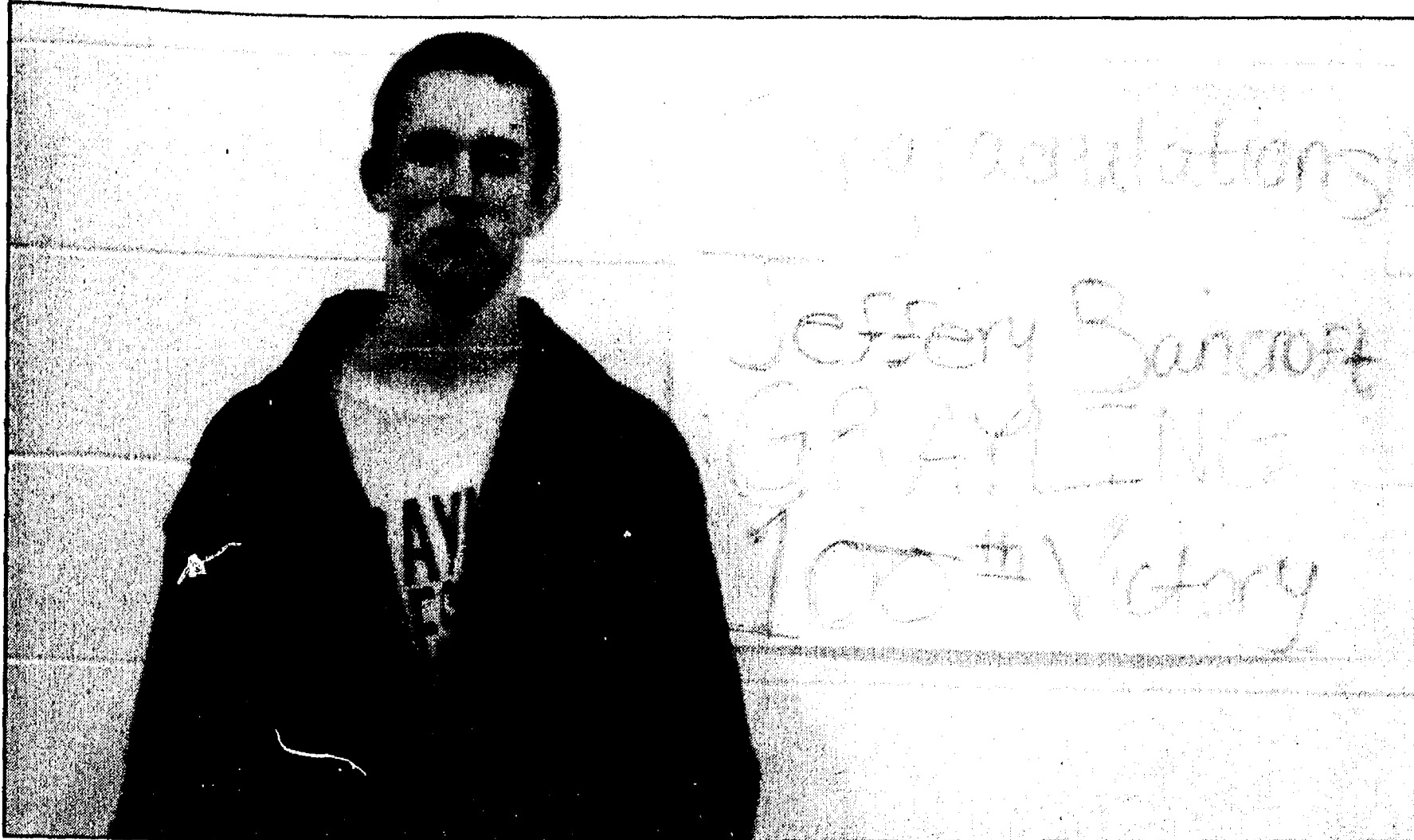
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Jeff Bancroft, a junior, posted his 100th career high school wrestling victory at last Tuesday's meet at Charlevoix.

Wrestling team splits up for two Saturday tournaments

Continued from Page 1B

Sault Saint Marie tournament: (103) Frank McLeod, 1st; (119) Eric Gosicki, 1st; (125) Steve Grove, 1st; (130) Cody Collen, 1st; (145) Brian Hagerman, 1st; (275) Matt Letts, 1st; (275) Dan CdeBaca, 1st; (135) Shane Grove, 2nd; (140) James Haight, 2nd; (160) Tory Myers, 2nd. Matt Haight (145) and Jacob Myers (160) also wrestled for the Vikings.

Grayling took seven wrestlers to Gaylord to compete in the largest one-day wrestling event held in the state — the Northern Michigan Championships. The event included 28 teams and over 300 of the highest-ranked individual wrestlers.

"This is the tournament that everybody measures just how good they really are," Coach Joe Ferrigan said.

Cody Malone (140), sophomore, 6th place. "Cody proved just how tough he is — not many 10th graders can compete at this level," Coach Ferrigan said.

Jeff Bancroft (152), junior, 2nd place. "Jeff made it to the finals and lost to a very tough wrestler from Ishpeming who was last year's U.P. state champion and is

ranked as one of the best in the nation," Coach Ferrigan said.

Eric Madill (160), sophomore. "Eric wrestled very well, winning one match scoring points for the team. Eric finished out of the medals," Coach Ferrigan said.

Jacob Reynolds (171), sophomore. "Jacob was giving up around 11 pounds to the other wrestlers in his weight class. It is very tough to compete at this level giving up so much weight. Jacob wrestled very well but finished out of the medals," Coach Ferrigan said.

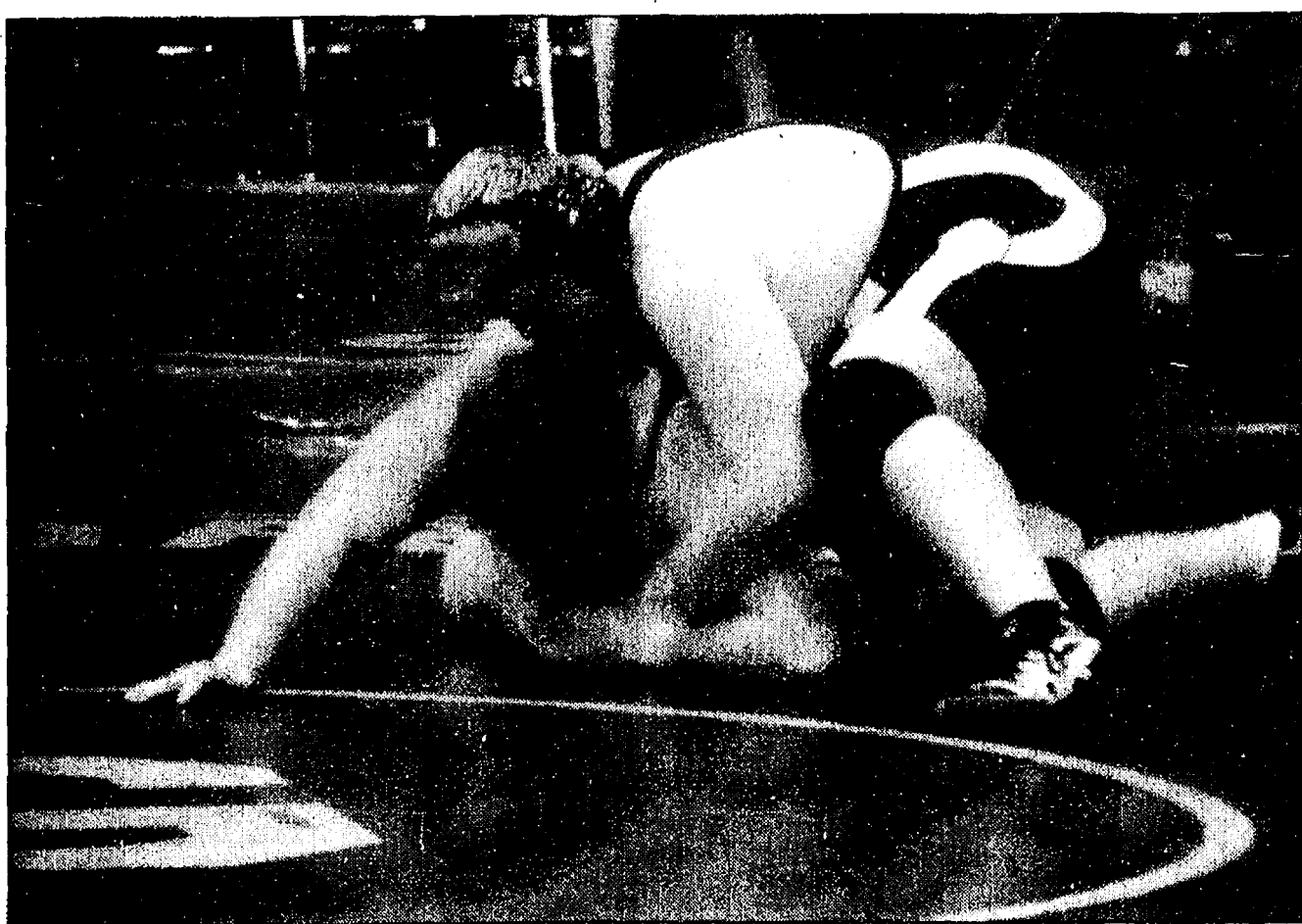
James Walker (189), senior, 6th place. "James continued his great season beating a couple of ranked wrestlers to finish the day in sixth place. All day long other coaches kept asking me, 'Where did you get that 189-pounder?' He is really impressive," Coach Ferrigan said.

Joey Ferrigan (215), senior, 6th place. "Joe was overlooked by the other coaches at the seeding meeting and came from an unseeded position losing a very close match to the number one ranked wrestler in division two. Joe came back to beat two other ranked wrestlers. Joe finished the

day in sixth place," Coach Ferrigan said.

Bill Stewart (275), senior, 1st place. "Bill was considered as the sixth best heavyweight at the seeding meeting by the other coaches. Bill started the day by beating a very tough wrestler from Kalkaska who had beaten Bill earlier in the year. In the second round Bill beat a very good wrestler from Cadillac. In the semifinal round Bill beat the number two seeded wrestler and the number one ranked heavyweight in the U.P. from the Soo setting up a finals match against the heavyweight from Gaylord who beat Bill in the first match of the year. Bill won the match 5-1 to be crowned champion of the 2006 Northern Michigan Championships," Coach Ferrigan said. "It was a great day for Bill and a great weekend for the entire Viking wrestling team."

The team will compete against Kalkaska and Traverse City St. Francis on Thursday, Feb. 2, in Kalkaska beginning at 6 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 4, the Vikings will wrestle in the Lake Michigan Conference Individual Championships at Kalkaska starting at 10 a.m.



Bill Stewart competes in the heavyweight division at the Northern Michigan Championships at Gaylord on Saturday. Stewart placed 1st in his weight class.



James Walker (189) wrestles in Saturday's tournament at Gaylord. Walker placed 6th in his division.

Crawford County Transportation Authority

Weekday Scheduled Services to:

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Leaves Grayling 6:45 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling 9:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 1:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling 11:30 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling 1:15 p.m.	Leaves Grayling 5:00 p.m.
Leaves Grayling 3:00 p.m.	
Leaves Grayling 5:00 p.m.	

M-72 EAST	BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON
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Leaves Grayling 7:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 11:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling 9:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 1:00 p.m.*
Leaves Grayling 11:30 a.m.	Leaves Grayling 2:15 p.m.
Leaves Grayling 1:30 p.m.	Leaves Grayling 4:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling 3:30 p.m.	
Leaves Grayling 5:00 p.m.	

To request weekday demand response services call dispatch @ 348-5409

M-72 WEST
Demand response service calls worked in between other runs

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Transportation dependent individuals requiring transportation for the purpose of accessing specialty medical services not locally available may qualify for RHI medical transportation services.

Information regarding RHI medical transportation services can be obtained by contacting: Julie Dean 348-8215

SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS *: Scheduled For February 2006

Trip #1
Tuesday, February 14, 2006
Victorias Casino - Potoskey
Departing at 8:30 a.m.
Approximate arrival in Grayling 4:00 p.m.

Trip #2
Thursday, February 9, 2006
"Out to Lunch Gang"
for Gaylord
Lunch at BJ's Restaurant and Shopping at Wal-mart
Departing the Center at 10:30 a.m.
Trip organized by the Crawford County Commission on Aging
Contact Elouise Mize @ 348-7123 to reserve a seat

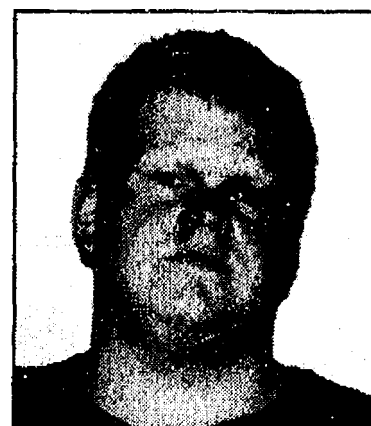
*Special event trips require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To reserve seats or request information concerning special event trips call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

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Service schedules may be modified to meet increased demand during special community events, such as the Milltown Festival.

To request information concerning expanded services call Richard or Gary @ 348-4101

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Bill took first place in the heavyweight division of Saturday's Northern Michigan Championship meet at Gaylord.

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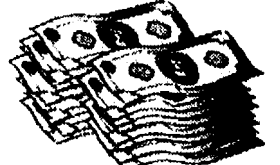
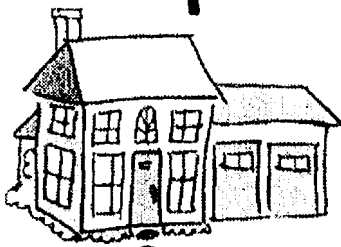
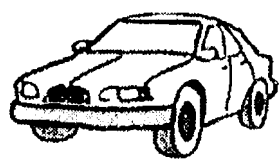
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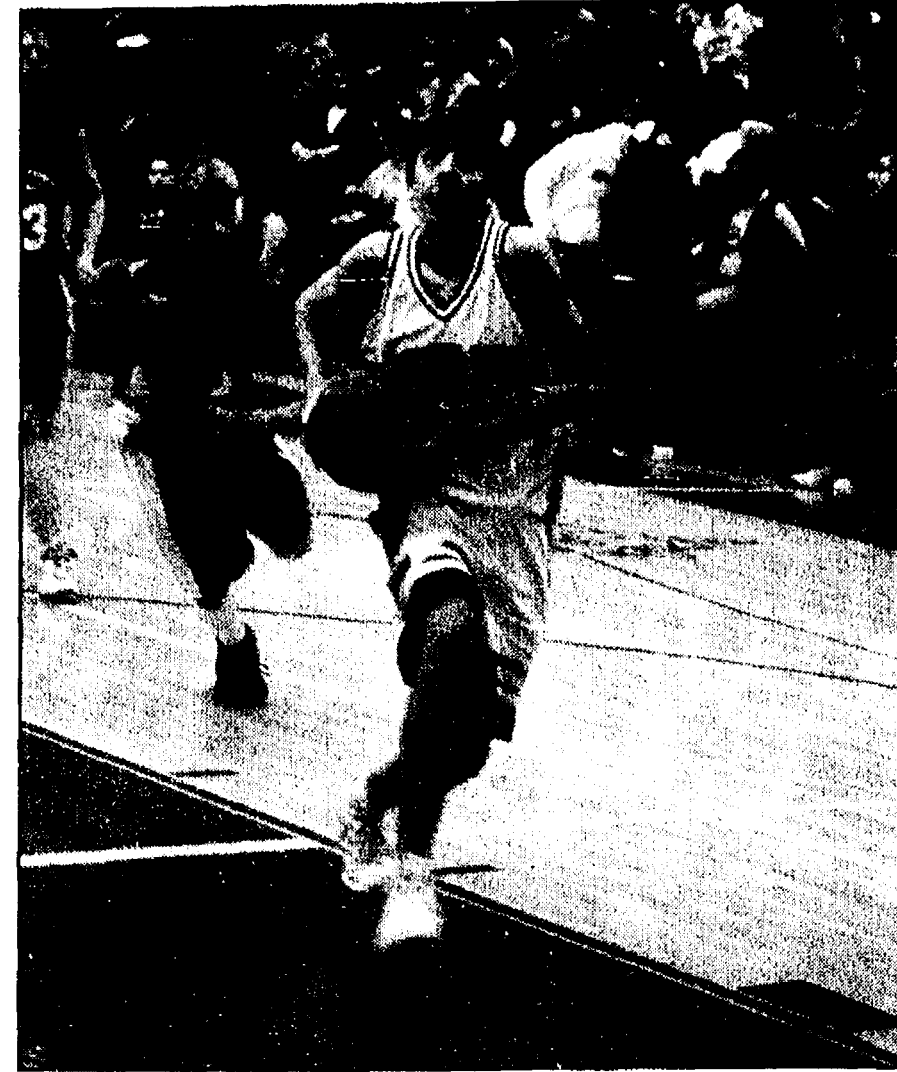


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Josh Stapleton (left) handles the ball for GHS vs. Boyne City. Richard Schreiber (right) drives to the basket for the Vikings on Friday night.



JV Vikings win vs. Bucks, Ramblers

Grayling wins at Roscommon 65-59, posts 55-47 victory over Boyne City

Grayling High School's junior varsity boys basketball team defeated the Roscommon Bucks and the Boyne City Ramblers in games last week.

On Tuesday night, the Vikings won at Roscommon with a second half rally. The Bucks led 19-10 after one quarter and had a 34-29 advantage at halftime. The score was tied at 47-47 going into the fourth period and GHS won by a final score of 65-59.

"Josh Stapleton and Geo Bindschatel played their best game to this point in the season," Coach Chris Kucharek said. "The first time we played them we gave up 31 points in the fourth quarter. This time only 12."

Stapleton scored 16 points for GHS. Richard Schreiber had 12 points and Jason Drudge added 11. Justin Summers scored 6. Jeremiah Bootz had 6 points and 6 rebounds. Bindschatel had 3 points.

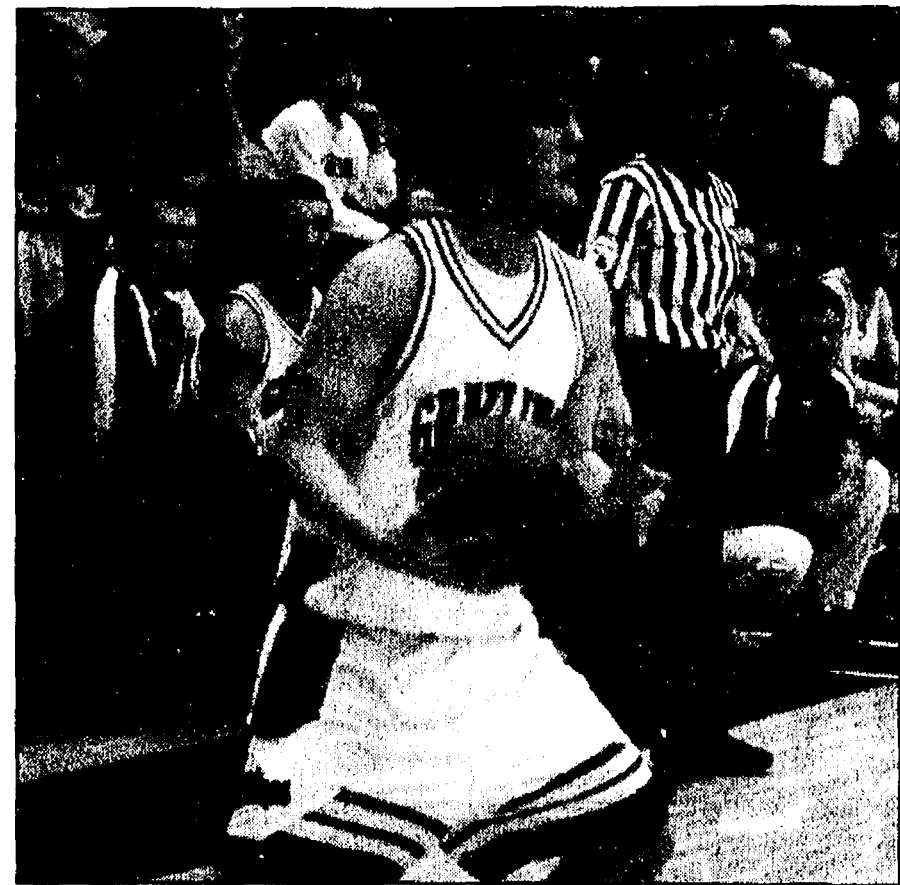
On Friday, the JV squad defeated Boyne City 55-47 at GHS.

The Vikings had a 22-11 lead after one quarter. GHS led 29-22 at halftime and took a 49-31 edge into the fourth period. Grayling won by eight points.

"Our defensive play was very intense. Josh Stapleton, Richie Schreiber, and Jason Drudge set the tone for us defensively," Coach Kucharek said. "Our bench was a big key in this game. Andrew Hulbert, Justin Denno, and Lucas Pippin gave us key minutes off the bench."

Continued on Page 5B

See "JV VIKINGS..."



Geo Bindschatel looks for an open teammate during Friday's game vs. Boyne City.

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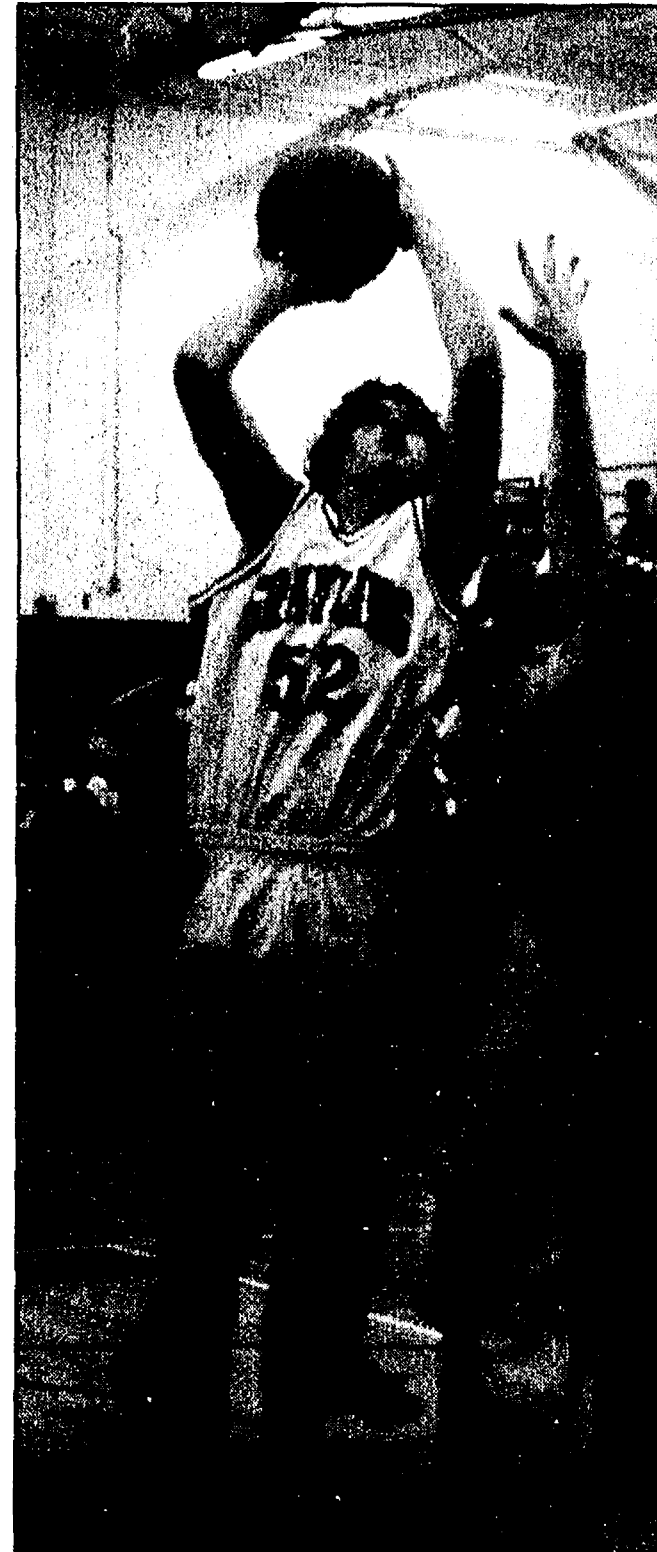
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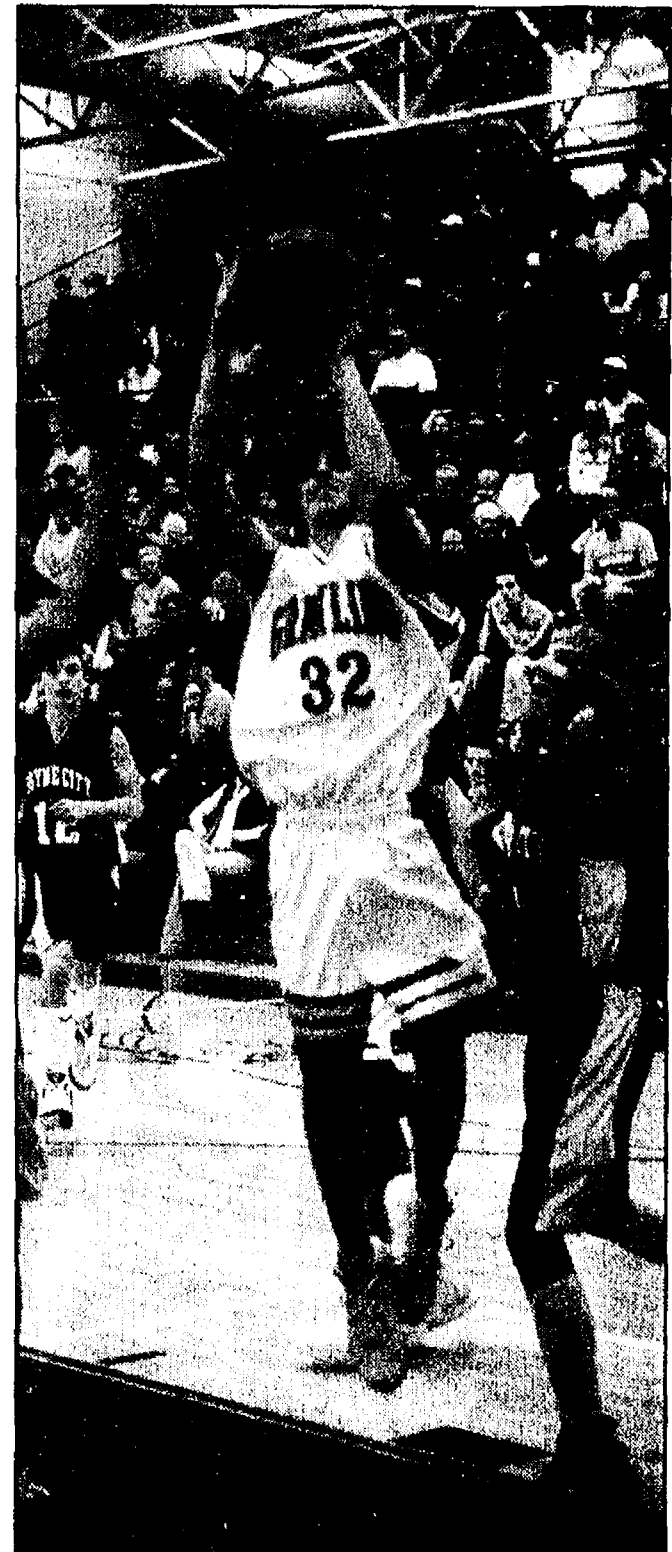
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Matt McDonald (left) and Jason Drudge (right) shoot for the Vikings on Friday.



5TH GRADE BASKETBALL

Grayling's 5th grade boys basketball team hosted a tournament on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Grayling opened the tourney with a 14-0 loss to Gaylord.

The 5th graders then defeated Fairview 9-6. Scott Parkinson, Tyler Powers, and Levi Korneli scored points for Grayling.

Grayling won its third game 13-0 vs. Kalkaska. Scoring for Grayling were Wes Dean, Mason Krey, Parkinson, Powers, and Korneli.

The team's fourth game ended with a 14-6 victory over Roscommon. Powers, Dean, Korneli, and Parkinson scored

for Grayling.

"Our team really wanted to beat Roscommon. The whole team pulled together and this was our first victory over Roscommon. Krey, Alex Bartha, Jeff Enos, Alex Stephan, and Jake Cochrane stepped up their game," Coach Parkinson said.

Grayling was seeded second with a 3-1 record going into the final round.

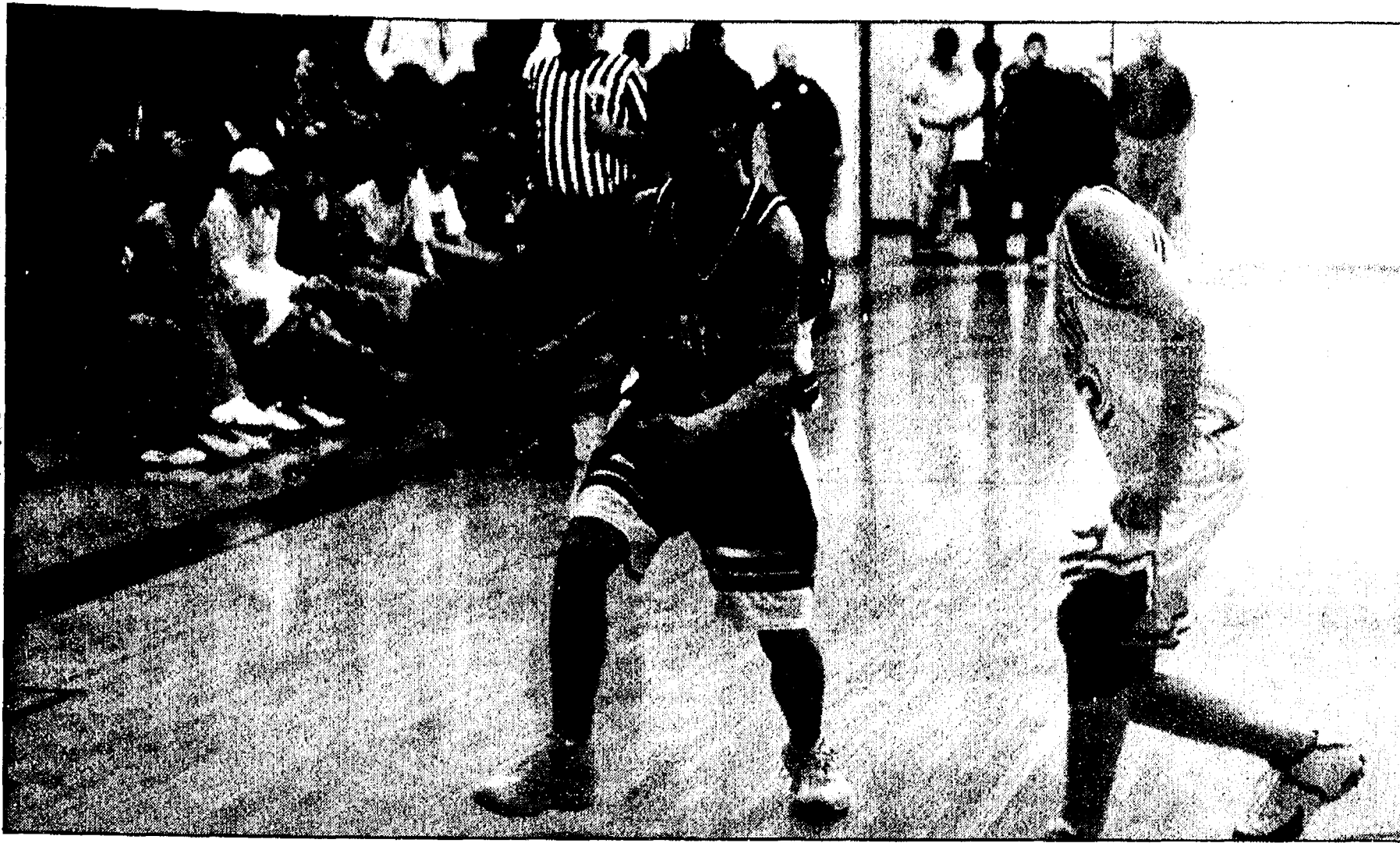
The team had to face Roscommon again for a chance to go to the championship game. Roscommon won the match 12-5. Dean and Powers scored for Grayling.

Gaylord finished 1st, Roscommon was 2nd, and Grayling took 3rd.

The 5th grade boys basketball team played an exhibition game vs. Roscommon during halftime of the Grayling vs. RHS game on Tuesday, Jan. 23. The contest ended in a 4-4 tie. Jacob Robinson and Krey scored for Grayling.

"It was a great opportunity to play in front of a large crowd. Our team enjoyed it," Coach Parkinson said.

The team will play at Gaylord on Feb. 4.



Jason Drudge controls the ball for the Vikings during Tuesday night's contest at Roscommon.

JV Vikings win vs. Bucks, Ramblers

Continued from Page 4B

Schreiber had 11 points and 7 steals for GHS. Stapleton had 8 points and 7 steals. Drudge had a team-high 14 points. Ryan Cooper scored 9 points. Isaac

VanNuck finished with 6 rebounds. The Vikings play at Charlevoix on Friday, Feb. 3. The team plays at Gaylord on Feb. 7.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Jeremiah Bootz (left) shoots a free throw for Grayling. Richard Schreiber (right) takes a jump shot for GHS.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Recreation League

American Legion 19 - 9
Mickey Perez, CPA 19 - 9
Woody Girls 19 - 9
Hawk Ridge 15 - 13
Gr. Nursing Center 12 - 16
Coldwell Banker 11 - 17
Days Inn 9 - 19
Glen's Market 8 - 20
High Series: M. Starks, 584; P. D'Amour, 531; M. Ginther, 524.
High Game: M. Starks, 224; P. D'Amour, 215; S. Rozenek 202.

Senior Bowling

Spike's 52 - 32
Flowers By Josie 51.5 - 32.5
Kicking Grass 44 - 40
Stitches By Sue 41 - 43
Grayling Pharmacy 40.5 - 43.5
Bear's Den Pizza 38 - 42
Lone Pine 35 - 49
Sylvesters Sports 34 - 50
High Series Women: M. Rysso, 481; C. Clark, 441; R. Joyce, 421. High Game Women: M. Rysso, 170; R. Joyce, 162; C. Clark, 159. High Series Men: P. Faustman, 567; L. Crampton, 542; K. Louchart, 521. High Game Men: L. Crampton, 212; P. Faustman, 207; K. Harris, 181.

Pioneer League

McDonald's 12 - 0

Chemical Bank 10 - 2
Grayling Rest 8 - 4
Thad Pooley Painting 6 - 6
AJD Forest 6 - 6
Cal Dutton Const. 4 - 8
Spicy Bob's 2 - 10
Tim's Collision 0 - 12
High Series: J. Coors, 510; L. Golnick, 485; M. Cole and P. Benardo, 477. High Game: J. Coors, 214; M. Cole, 192; L. Golnick, 187.

Friday Mixed Doubles

American Legion 18 - 10
IMM 18 - 10
New "Kids" 16 - 12
Lucky & Laura's 13 - 15
Moshier Auto Repair 9 - 19
Double Trouble 9 - 19
High Series Men: D. Wallace, 607; D. Williamson, 604; P. Benardo, 560. High Game Men: D. Wallace, 236; D. Williamson, 223; R. Trudeau and P. Benardo, 212. High Series Women: J. Williamson, 564; S. Johnson, 489; P. Benardo, 478. High Game Women: J. Williamson, 194; S. Johnson and P. Benardo, 179.

Northwood League

Tim's Collision 17 - 7
Bud Lite Babes 15 - 9

Tree Huggers 14.5 - 9.5
Carey & Jaskowski 14 - 10
Great Lk Mortgage 12 - 12
Choppers Spare 10.5 - 13.5
Hart Pontiac 9 - 15
Scott McNamara 4 - 20
High Series: P. Benardo, 527; D. Argue, 518; T. Hellebuyck and M. Cole, 478. High Game: P. Benardo, 198; D. Argue, 184; T. Hellebuyck, 178.

Grayling USBC Tournament Team Event

Canfield's 3380
Great Lk Mortgage 3305
GADCO 3262
Scheer Motors 3245
Faustman's Insurance 3229
J-Bar 3174
Sawmill 3170
Corky's Karaoke 3149
Scott Pittman Bld. 3133
Upper Lakes 3067
Fenton's Auto Serv. 3033
McLeans ACE 3025
Grayling Chiropractic 2935
Derwich Ind 2861
High Series: J. Hunt, 771; D. Yelivek, 662; P. Benardo, 638. High Game: J. Atwood and J. Hunt, 279; J. Hunt, 257; J. Thayer, 256.

6TH GRADE BASKETBALL

Grayling's 6th grade boys basketball team hosted a six-team tournament at Grayling High School on Saturday, Jan. 28. The event included squads from Gaylord, Roscommon, Fairview, West Branch, and Kalkaska.

The Grayling team consists of Zane Tobin, Jared Carlisle, Joey Latusek, Joshua McBride, Zach Schreiber, Travis Schreiber, Tom Burrell, Russell Stein, Xavier Lindsey, Griffin Dean, Steven Enos, David Bergan, Devon Dawson, Coach Rocky Tobin,

and Coach Brian Burrell.

Grayling's first game of Saturday's tournament was a win over West Branch in 'A' pool play.

Tobin, Enos, and Burrell were Grayling's leading scorers.

"(We) played aggressive man to man defense, which resulted in numerous turnovers. Zane Tobin ran our offense very well, and the team showed a lot of improvement from last week's game," coaches said.

In game two, Grayling defeat-

ed Kalkaska 22-14. Tobin, Burrell, Enos, Bergan, Dean, and Lindsey scored points for Grayling.

Grayling then played Gaylord - the winner of pool 'B' - for the tournament championship. Gaylord led 14-8 at halftime and won the game 24-16. Bergan, Tobin, Enos, and Lindsey scored for Grayling.

The 6th grade team finishes its season with games at Gaylord High School on Saturday, Feb. 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings

Frederic Inn 134
Holiday Inn 113
Sawmill I 112

Growlers Pub 108
Legion 105
Sawmill II 105
5 Ball Runs: Johanna (Legion);

Deanne (Sawmill II); Christy (Sawmill I). 6 Ball Runs: Rose (Frederic Inn) and Johanna (Legion).

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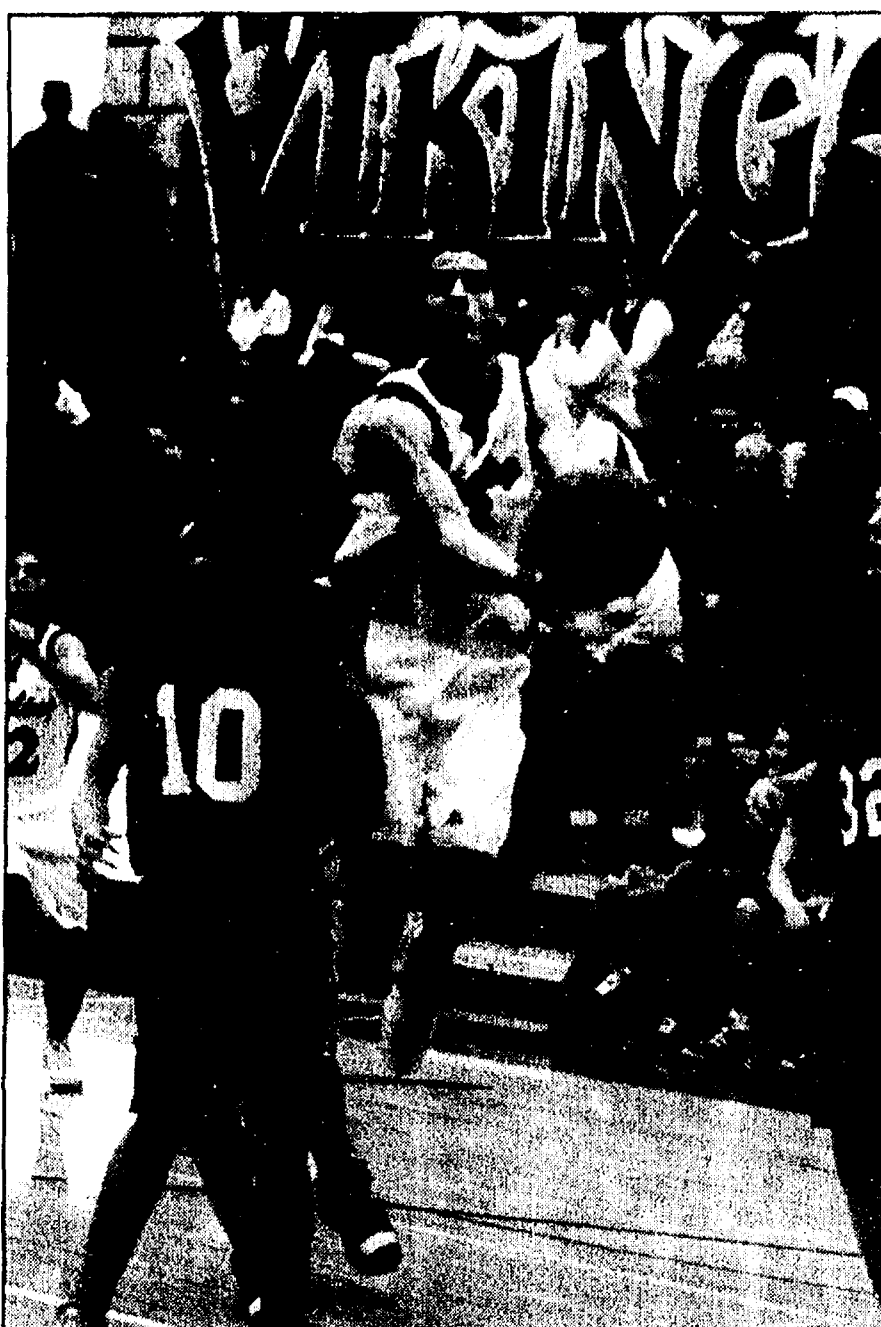
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Reagan Schmidt (left) and Steve Hodge (right) drive to the basket for the Vikings during last Friday's game against the Boyne City Ramblers.



Vikings defeat Boyne City in rematch, 68-54

Continued from Page 1B

A fast break lay-up by Bobby Starks following a steal gave GHS an 11-point lead. Two free throws by Boyne City pulled the Ramblers back within nine. Grayling scored on an inside shot by Mike Boylan, and Boyne City answered with an inside shot.

The Vikings scored six unanswered points on an inside shot by Eli VanNuck, two free throws by Steve Hodge, and a put-back by Jim Boylan.

The Ramblers rallied with eight unanswered points to cut Grayling's lead to seven, 61-54, with 2:22 left in regulation.

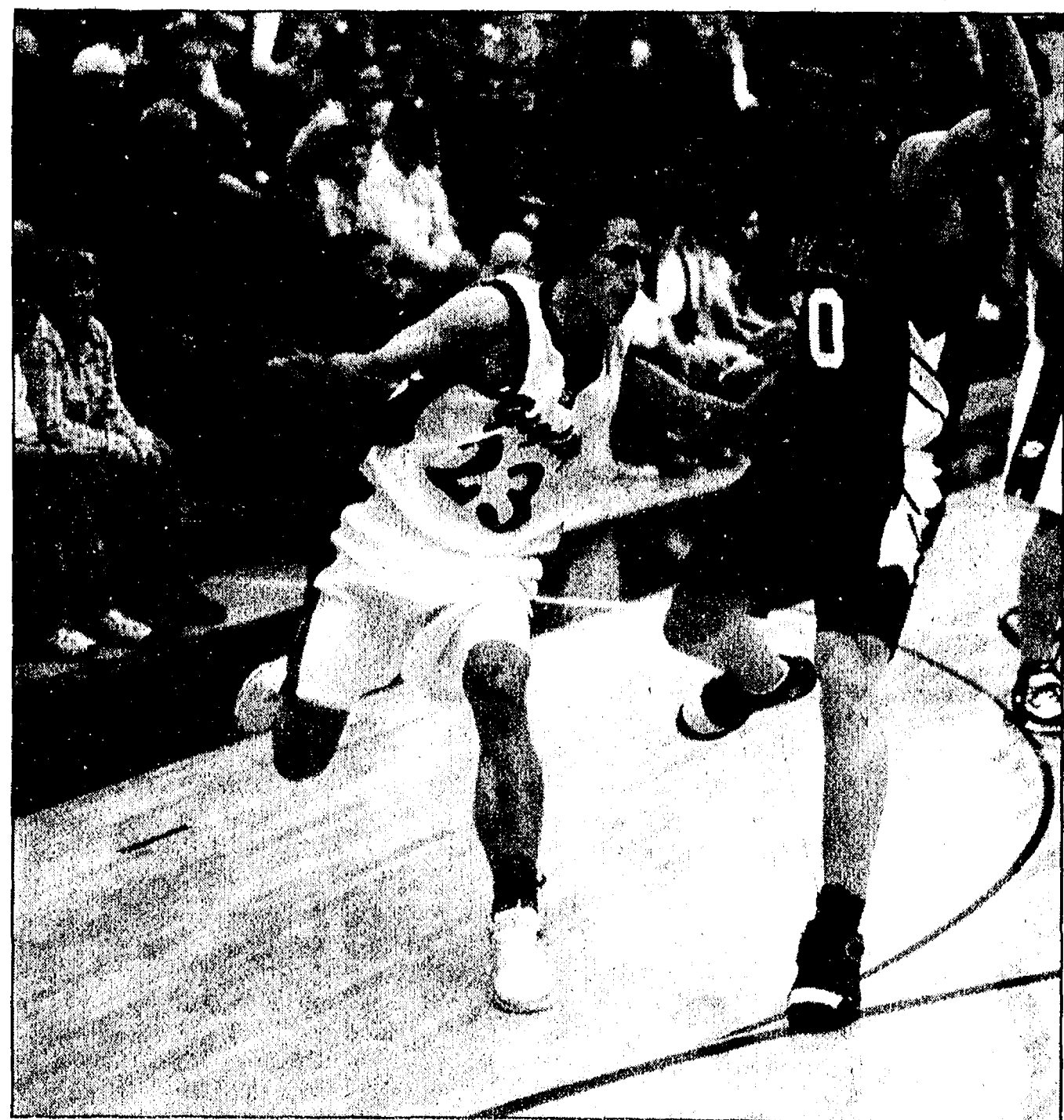
The Vikings held Boyne City scoreless for the rest of the game and added seven points to their final total -- all on free throw shots. VanNuck was 5 for 6 from the free throw line down the stretch and Zach Dean was 2 for 2. GHS won 68-54.

"I think it was kind of a tough game coming off two emotional

wins," Coach Rich Moffit said. "At times we played with a lot of energy and focus."

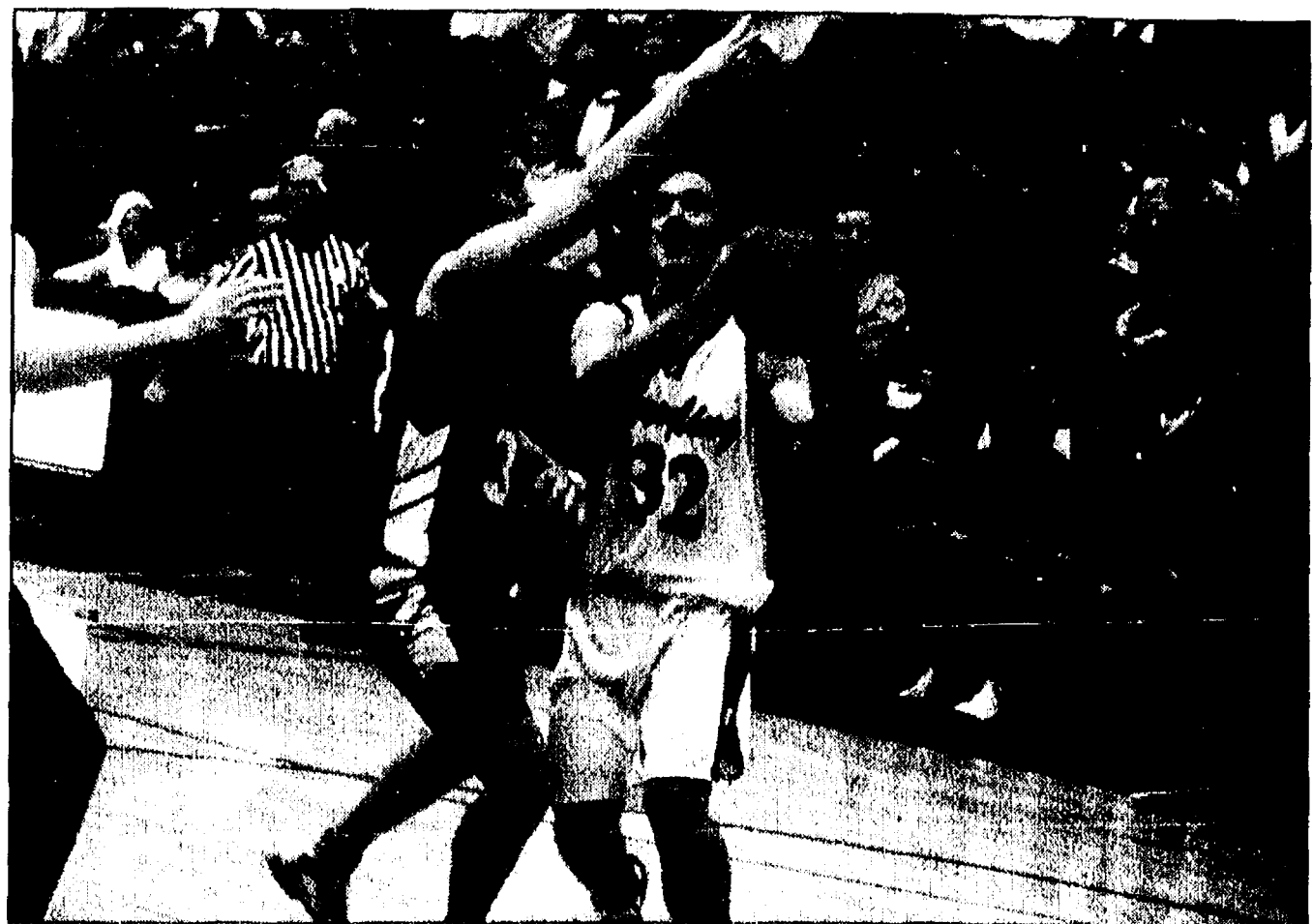
"Our kids have struggled with the flu all week," Moffit said.

Starks had 16 points and 5 steals for GHS. VanNuck also finished with 16 points. Dean scored 10 points. J. Boylan had 9 points and 9 rebounds. Hodge, Reagan Schmidt, Zac Baker, M. Boylan, and Ronnie Johnston also scored points for the Vikings.



Eli VanNuck dribbles the ball for Grayling on Friday night.

Photos by Caleb Casey



Bobby Starks handles the ball for the Vikings vs. Boyne City.

KIRTLAND BASKETBALL

Men's Team

A whopping seven Kirtland Firebirds scored in double digits in the men's basketball team's victory over the Alpena Lumberjacks in Alpena on Wednesday, Jan. 25. Kirtland's 101-82 win improved the Firebirds' record to 9-11, while Alpena dropped to 5-10 in the MCCA.

Brian Suchowesky, a 6'4" freshman from Houghton Lake, had one of his best games to date, netting 17 points for the Firebirds and adding 6 rebounds. Sal Kabara, a 6'6" freshman from the Central African Republic, also landed 17 points.

Other Firebirds in double digits were David Allison (sophomore, Lapeer) with 16 points, 9 rebounds and 6 steals; Darrin Wilson (freshman, Prescott) with 15 points and 9 rebounds; Tony Brown (freshman, Battle Creek) with 14 points, 7 rebounds and 12 assists; DeMarvelous Carter (sophomore, Flint) with 10 points and 4 rebounds; and Matt Tompkins (freshman, Fairview) with 10 points.

If Sal Kabara had to conjure up his worst nightmare, it would have taken the shape of the 7-foot, 285-pound center who showed up at the CRAF Center on Saturday, Jan. 21, to play basketball for Schoolcraft College. With a gentle touch that belied his hulking frame, James Davis dropped in 28 points for Schoolcraft on that team's way to a 108-70 defeat of the Kirtland Firebirds.

To his credit, Kabara, the Firebirds' 6-foot 6-inch and 189-pound center from the Central African Republic, got around the giant for 26 points of his own, shooting 8 for 8 from the free-throw line, and had a field day blocking shots against some of Schoolcraft's less height-advantaged players.

Kirtland's defense came out stronger at the start of the game than it finished and they went into the second half down only by 11 with a score of 40-29. But with only seven Firebirds able to take to the court, and facing an almost non-stop press from Schoolcraft, it wasn't long before Schoolcraft's lead became insurmountable. The Livonia-based Ocelots are now 17-3 overall, while Kirtland dropped to 8-11.

David Allison, Kirtland's 6-foot sophomore guard from

Lapeer, added 16 points, and Darrin Wilson, a 6-foot 4-inch freshman forward from Prescott, proved a great asset to the Firebirds and added 13 points.

Rounding out Kirtland's scoring were Tony Brown (freshman, Battle Creek) with 9 points and 6 assists; Matt Tompkins (freshman, Fairview) with 4 points; and DeMarvelous Carter (sophomore, Flint) with 2 points and 6 rebounds.

In what turned out to be a thrilling road game that saw Kirtland's Tony Brown, a 6'1" freshman guard from Battle Creek, turn in 32 points, the Kirtland Firebirds fell to Delta College, 113-110, on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at University Center.

Delta - 1-11 overall going into the matchup - was apparently no team to be trifled with and Kirtland head coach Glen Donahue gave the Pioneers a lot of credit for the win.

"The credit goes to Delta and their guys playing that hard - they can score," Donahue said. "And we let them. We lacked the complete intensity on defense we had in the St. Clair game (a Kirtland win on Jan. 14)."

Sal Kabara (freshman, Central African Republic) scored 23 points against Delta. David Allison (sophomore, Lapeer) added 19, followed by Juandrell Lewis (sophomore, Detroit) with 15, and Brian Suchowesky (freshman, Houghton Lake) with 11 points.

Women's Team

With everyone contributing significant time and the application of a half-court press that thwarted their opponents, the Kirtland Lady Firebirds netted a satisfying 79-62 win over the Alpena Lady Lumberjacks on Wednesday, Jan. 25, in Alpena.

Emily Henion, Kirtland's live-wire freshman guard from Frederic, knotted a double-double with 11 points and 10 assists. She also added a team-high 7 rebounds and 3 steals.

The Firebirds' Lizz Stempki (freshman, St. Ignace) continued to lead the team in scoring with 22 points on 11 of 18 from the field to go along with 6 boards. Chelsey Williams (freshman, Houghton Lake) rounded out the double digits with 13 points and 7 rebounds.

Rena Barnett (freshman, LeRoy) had 7 points, 3 boards, 3

assists and 4 steals, while Natalie Foster (freshman, Houghton Lake) added 6 points and 5 boards.

When they managed to get around the Firebirds' press, the Lumberjacks shot well, with Whitney Meeder (Posen) leading Alpena's scoring with 25 points.

The win brought the Lady Firebirds' record to 10-12 overall, while the Lady Lumberjacks dropped to 3-11.

It was Rena Barnett's night for 3-point shots and Kirtland's Lady Firebirds needed every one they could muster when the Lady Ocelots of Schoolcraft College (Livonia) came to town Saturday, Jan. 21. However, even Barnett's 24 points - 18 from beyond the 3-point stripe - weren't enough to put the Firebirds over the top and the Ocelots maintained their almost flawless record with an 81-77 win over Kirtland.

The loss, at home in the CRAF Center, was the Lady Firebirds' fifth straight and dropped them to a 9-12 overall record.

But it almost wasn't a loss at all. After one of their best showings to date, the Lady Firebirds were up by 5 points with three minutes left on the clock and had every chance to beat Schoolcraft, which is ranked number three in the country.

Schoolcraft's top-ranked offense is led by four players who average in the double digits, one of whom was out this game, and the Lady Ocelots were 16-1 going into Saturday's contest, having lost only to Mott Community College, the leader of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference.

"We wanted to run the clock down a bit at that point," said Kirtland head coach Teresa Stuck about the last minutes of the game, "but at the same time we lost our aggressiveness, and Schoolcraft increased theirs."

The game went down to the wire, however, and left fans wanting to see more of the intense basketball-playing Firebirds who showed up for this game.

"We have to bring that intensity to every game," Stuck said. "If that happens, we won't lose another game."

Stuck commended Barnett, a freshman from LeRoy, for taking the shots that were given to her. "We just have to get some other

players in the same position," she said.

Lizz Stempki (freshman, St. Ignace) also gave a great performance for the Firebirds, dropping in 23 points, but was once again plagued with foul trouble, an area Stuck said she's working hard on.

Also scoring for the Firebirds were Chelsey Williams (freshman, Houghton Lake) with 9 points, Emily Henion (freshman, Frederic) with 8 and Emilee Bruner (sophomore, Mio) with 7. Onica Jones (freshman, Rochester, N.Y.), Nadia Blake (freshman, Toronto) and Ashley Andrews (sophomore, West Branch), who is back with the Firebirds after spending last semester on duty with the Marine Corps, each scored 2 points in the contest.

Shekira Knowles and Evalyn Bain, both freshman from the Bahamas, and Natalie Foster, a freshman from Houghton Lake, contributed valuable minutes and energy for the Firebirds.

Log onto the Web at firebirds.kirtland.edu for more information about Firebirds basketball.

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LEGAL ACTION

GRAYLING TOWNSHIP BOARD Regular Meeting January 11, 2006

Members Present: Shawn Krayes, Dennis Long, Monica Ashton, Terry Wright.

Members Absent: Ruth O'Mara.

Others Present: Jeff Pendergraff.

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Motion by Long, second by Krayes, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Grayling Township Board of December 14, 2005, and the Record of Public Hearings of December 14, 2005, as presented. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried.

2. The Treasurer's Report for December 2005 was not available for this meeting.

3. Correspondence: (No action required) Par-Plan News for Dec 05, Recycling Report for Dec 05, Building Dept Report for Dec 05, Chamber News for Jan 05, Crawford Co. Senior Gazette for Jan 05, Fire Dept Report for Dec 05.

4. There were no citizens who wished to speak.

5. Action on renewal of Special Assessment Districts for Maintenance of Private Roads, which were heard at public hearings held earlier this evening.

A. Property owners at public hearing for South Horseshoe Trail (South of M-72 Hwy) voiced desire to change road maintenance contractors. Supervisor advised a new petition should be circulated. Public hearing of necessity rescheduled for 6:35 p.m. February 8, 2006.

B. Motion by Long, second by Krayes, that absent negative comment from prop-

erty owners at public hearing for Timber Trail, this board affirms the necessity for continuation of the Special Assessment District for Maintenance and approves renewal of same. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried. Public hearing for approval of the Special Assessment Roll for Maintenance of Timber Trail is scheduled for 6:15 p.m. February 8, 2006.

C. Motion by Krayes, second by Long, that absent negative comment from property owners at public hearing for Turner Trail, this board affirms the necessity for continuation of the Special Assessment District for Maintenance and approves renewal of same. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried. Public hearing for approval of the Special Assessment Roll for Maintenance of Turner Trail is scheduled for 6:25 p.m. February 8, 2006.

6. A public hearing regarding the necessity of creation of a Special Assessment District for Rebuilding Ole Dam Road between Turner Trail and Nottingham Drive is scheduled for February 8, 2006 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

7. Motion by Long, second by Krayes, to support the Crawford County Resolution for adoption of the Crawford County, Michigan, Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried. (See attachment "A").

8. Motion by Long, second by Krayes, to adopt 2006 Grayling Township Poverty Guidelines per schedule established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (See attachment "B"). Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried.

9. The Crawford County Board of Commissioners has awarded the following environmental grants to Grayling Township for 2006. Scrap Tire Clean-up: \$4,447.00. Milfoil Eradication: \$2,668.00. (See Attachment "C").

10. Motion by Krayes, second by Long, to approve payment of claims on vouchers 3998-4040, Board & Comm.

Fees for Dec 05 \$695.00, Liquor inspections \$120.00 for a grand total of \$101,392.05. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one. Motion carried.

11. Motion to adjourn, carried. Ayes: four, Nays: none, Absent: one.

Monica Ashton, C.M.C., Grayling Township Clerk

MORTGAGE SALE

The firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Please contact our office at the number below if you are in active military duty.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage. The mortgage was made by Monte G. Malonen, a single man, whose last known address was 525 Crescent Place, Grayling, Michigan 49738 to the United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture now known as United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, dated August 4, 2000 and recorded December 5, 2000 in Crawford County Register of Deeds at Liber 524, Pages 157, 158, 159, 160 161 & 162. There is claimed to be due to the United States of America as of January 9, 2006 the sum of Seventy-One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventeen and 13/100 (\$71,917.13) Dollars including interest at 7.375 per annum. Interest is \$7,375 per day.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgaged property, or some part thereof, at public venue, at Crawford County Courthouse in Grayling, Michigan at 10:00 A.M. on **MARCH 1, 2006**.

Said premises are situated in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan and described as follows:

Lot 37, Grayling Manor, Township of

Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 10, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale or abandonment, if abandonment occurs after sale.

Dated: January 18, 2005
David L. Porteous
Attorney for Mortgagee
PORTEOUS LAW OFFICE, P.C.
4393 - 220th Avenue, P.O. Box 206
Reed City, MI 49677
(231) 832-3231

-2-9-16-23

MORTGAGE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by William Milleg and Heather Miller, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., mortgagee, dated June 10, 2005 and recorded July 6, 2005 in Liber 676, Page 158, Crawford County Records. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Sixty Thousand Five Hundred Twenty and 56/100 Dollars (\$60,520.56) including interest at the rate of 7.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of

the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on February 8, 2006.

The premises are located in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

South one-half of East one-half of Lot 6, Block 4, Martha M. Brinks Addition to the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan according to the plat thereof.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale.

Dated: January 5, 2006
ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Mortgagee
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 207.4065

-5-12-19-26-2

MORTGAGE SALE

PETER M. SCHNEIDERMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248)539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by DENISE M. ENGLISH, a single woman and DAVID L. DEMARA, a married man, to SOURCE ONE MORT-

GAGE SERVICES CORPORATION, Mortgagee, dated September 29, 1995, and recorded on October 9, 1995, in Liber 401, on Page 164, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as assigned, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Thirty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars and Fifty-Seven Cents (\$37,898.57), including interest at 7.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan, at 10:00 AM o'clock, on February 22, 2006.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan and described as: THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH EAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 25, TOWN 26 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, EXCEPTING 33 FEET OFF THE WEST SIDE FOR ROAD PURPOSES. TAX ID NO. 040-41-025-04-120-00

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 12, 2006
GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION Mortgage/Assignee

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C.
23100 Providence Drive, Suite 450
Southfield, MI 48075

-19-26-2-9

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LEGAL ACTION

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Robert M. Dent, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated December 5, 2001, and recorded on December 21, 2001 in Liber 564 on Page 309, and rerecorded on May 12, 2003 in Liber 633 on Page 210, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-One Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Eight And 29/100 Dollars (\$71,598.29), including interest at 7.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on March 1, 2006.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 26, Grayling Manor. According to the Recorded Plat Thereof, as Recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 10, Crawford County Records

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 26, 2006
For more information, please call:
FC X 248.593.1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #080629F01
-26-2-9-16

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee.

In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by James W. Harwood, unmarried, original mortgagor(s), to Fifth Third Bank - Northern Michigan, Mortgagee, dated April 15, 2002, and recorded on April 23, 2002 in Liber 578 on Page 565, in Crawford county records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Trustee for the registered holders of ABFS Mortgage Loan Trust 2002-2, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2002-2 as assignee by an assignment, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Fifty And 80/100 Dollars (\$117,050.80), including interest at 9.35% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 22, 2006.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 14, TOWN 26 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, GRAYLING TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY, MICHIGAN; COMMENCING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER THEREOF; THENCE SOUTH 1 DEGREE 14 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST 1316.35 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREE 37 MINUTES WEST 66 FEET; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 14 MINUTES 40 SECONDS EAST 656.36 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREE 37 MINUTES WEST 32.65 FEET; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 14 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST 660.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREE 37 MINUTES EAST 98.67 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BE THE SAME MORE OR LESS, BUT SUBJECT TO ALL LEGAL HIGHWAYS.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 19, 2006
For more information, please call:
FC J 248.593.1311
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #077352F01
-19-26-2-9

MORTGAGE SALE

PETER M. SCHNEIDERMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248)539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been

made in the conditions of a mortgage made by GREGORY A. MILLER and SHELLY A. MILLER, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns,, Mortgagee, dated May 7, 2002, and recorded on May 15, 2002, in Liber 581, on Page 452, Crawford County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgagee to GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as assigned, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Twenty-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Three Cents (\$124,027.73), including interest at 6.750% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan, at 10:00 AM o'clock, on March 1, 2006

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP of GRAYLING, Crawford County, Michigan and described as: LOT(S) 15 AND 16, BLOCK 1, FIRST ADDITION TO PORTAGE LAKE PARK, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 19, CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORDS. TAX ID NO. 040-45-762-01-015-00

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 19, 2006
GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION
Mortgagee/Assignee

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C.
23100 Providence Drive, Suite 450
Southfield, MI 48075
-26-2-9-16

Notice of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Dean Worden, a single man, as his sole and separate property, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 5, 2005, and recorded on January 6, 2005 in Liber 673 on Page 224, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Seven And 25/100 Dollars (\$58,967.25), including interest at 8.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on March 1, 2006.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: BEING PARTS OF LOTS 17, 18 AND 19, OF BLOCK 8 OF THE FIFTH ADDITION TO PORTAGE LAKE PARK, LYING SOUTHWEST-ERLY OF HIGHWAY M-72 AND ALSO A PART OF BLOCK 9 OF THE FIFTH ADDITION TO PORTAGE LAKE PARK DESCRIBED AS: BEING ALL THAT

PART OF EVERGREEN STREET LYING BETWEEN BLOCKS 8 AND 9 AND WEST OF THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY BOUNDARY OF M-7 TO THE WESTERLY LINE OF ADJOINING LOT 17 IN BLOCK 8, IF EXTENDED SOUTH ACROSS EVERGREEN STREET TO THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF BLOCK 9, ALSO LOTS 30 THROUGH 34 INCLUSIVE OF BLOCK 9, FIFTH ADDITION TO PORTAGE LAKE PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 24, CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORDS. ALL IN SECTION 9, TOWN 25 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: January 26, 2006
For more information, please call:
FC X 248.593.1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #066825F02
-26-2-9-16

MORTGAGE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Randy Bolden Sr. and Betty Bolden, husband and wife, to Saxon Mortgage, Inc., mortgagee, dated February 20, 2002 and recorded May 17, 2002 in Liber 581, Page 619, Crawford County Records. Said mortgage is now held by Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas FKA Banker's Trust Company, as Trustee and Custodian by: Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc., FKA Meritech Mortgage Services, Inc., as it's attorney in fact by assignment submitted to and recorded by the Crawford County Register of Deeds. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Forty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Two and 19/100 Dollars (\$46,462.19) including interest at the rate of 7.90% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on February 15, 2006.

The premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 16 of the recorded Plat of Madsen's Pines, Crawford County records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale.

Dated: January 12, 2006
ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas FKA Banker's Trust Company, as Trustee and Custodian by: Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc., FKA Meritech Mortgage Services, Inc., as it's attorney in fact , As Assignee
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 244.1827
-12-19-26-2

MORTGAGE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Roger A. Moshier and Kary L. Moshier, his wife, to Home Loan and Investment Bank, F.S.B., mortgagee, dated July 14, 2001 and recorded July 23, 2001 in Liber 543, Page 162, Crawford County Records. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. Bank National Association as Trustee of CSFB ABS Trust Series 2002-HE11 by assignment dated August 14, 2001 and recorded on May 19, 2004 in Liber 668, Page 276, Crawford County Records. There is claimed to be due on such mortgage the sum of Forty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Six and 30/100 Dollars (\$47,496.30) including interest at the rate of 12.95% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on February 15, 2006.

The premises are located in the City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The Westerly one-half of Lots 7 and 8 of Block 3 of O.M. Barnes Addition to the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the recorded Plat thereof.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale.

Dated: January 12, 2006
ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC
Attorneys for U.S. Bank National Association as Trustee of CSFB ABS Trust Series 2002-HE11, As Assignee
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007-5041
(248) 457-1000
File No. 213.4113
-12-19-26-2

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE- Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Steven R. Czapke and Jeanne A. Czapke, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated December 10, 2004, and recorded on December 28, 2004 in Liber 673 on Page 52, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eleven Thousand Six Hundred Two And 94/100 Dollars (\$11,602.94) including interest at 8.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a

sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the Front door of the County building in Grayling at 10:00 AM, on February 15, 2006.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan and are described as: Lot 3, Block 8, Hadley's amended Addition to the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the recorded plat thereof, City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale.

Dated: January 12, 2006
For more information, please call:
FC S 248.593.1304
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
30400 Telegraph Rd Ste 200
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822
File #070915F02
-12-19-26-2

MORTGAGE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Notice is hereby given that Default has occurred in a Mortgage given by Tim A. Thiel, a single man, and Paul N. Thiel, a single man, mortgagors, to Independent Bank, f/k/a First National Bank of Gaylord, mortgagee. The Mortgage is dated January 18, 2002, and was recorded on June 20, 2002, in Liber 585 on pages 65 through 68 of the Crawford County records. The balance owing on the Mortgage as of the date of this Notice is \$31,058.51, including interest at 8.75% per year. The Mortgage contains a power of sale clause and no proceedings have been instituted to recover any part of the debt owing.

The Mortgage will be foreclosed by selling the property described below at a public auction to the highest bidder. The sale will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. local time at the main entrance to the Crawford County Court Facility, 200 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, Michigan, that being the place of holding Circuit Court for Crawford County, Michigan. The property will be sold to pay the amount then due on the Mortgage, including interest, legal costs, attorney fees and any taxes or insurance which may be paid by the mortgagee before the sale.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Beaver Creek, County of Crawford, Michigan and is described as: Parcel 33: A parcel of land on part of the East half of Section 8, T25N, R3W, Beaver Creek Township, Crawford County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the East Quarter corner of said Section 8; thence N89°48'29"W, 299.59 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence S80°52'01"W, 3.34 feet; thence N01°12'41"E, 395.35 feet; thence N81°49'34"E, 202.71 feet; thence S01°12'41"W, 391.94 feet; thence S80°52'01"W, 197.27 feet to the Point of Beginning. SUBJECT TO an easement for ingress, egress and public utilities over and across the Southerly 33 feet thereof.

The redemption period will expire six (6) months from the date of sale, unless it is determined that the property is abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of the sale.

Dated: January 19, 2006
SMITH, MARTIN, POWERS & KNIER, P.C.
By: Henry L. Knier, Jr. (P46393)
Attorney for Independent Bank, f/k/a First National Bank of Gaylord, Mortgagee
900 Washington Ave., P.O. Box 219
Bay City, MI 48707
(989) 892-4574
-2-9-16-23-2



Grayling Twp. seeks road maintenance bids

The Grayling Township Board of Trustees is seeking bids from qualified applicants for snowplowing and general road maintenance, including necessary grading, sanding and graveling, for that portion of South Horseshoe Trail south of M-72.

Bidders will submit an annual price for each of the next five years, to begin after the April 1, 2006 winter plowing season. Grayling Township will pay the annual amount once per year in the spring. The bid will expire after March 31, 2011.

The bidder will be expected to provide proof of liability insurance to protect both the property owners along South Horseshoe Trail and Grayling Township.

Sealed and signed bids must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2006. Send bids to: Terry Wright, Supervisor; Grayling Township; P.O. Box 521; 2090 Viking Way; Grayling, MI 49738.

Terry Wright
Supervisor

NOTICE

LANDOWNERS USING CAMERON BRIDGE ROAD FOR PROPERTY ACCESS

The Frederic Township Board will conduct a public hearing beginning at 7:00 PM on February 13, 2006 at the Township Hall, 7564 County Road 612, Frederic, MI to consider the paving of segments of Cameron Bridge Road from its intersection with Kolkla Creek Road to its intersection with Dickinson Road.

The purpose of this hearing will be to gather support or objections concerning the creation of a Special Assessment District necessary to cover the cost of improvements. Written comments received prior to the hearing will also be considered and may be sent to:

Frederic Township
ATTN: Supervisor
P.O. Box 78
Frederic, MI 49733

Preliminary plans, district maps, and cost estimates are on file at the Township Hall.

Jeff Kea
Supervisor

GRAYLING TWP. ZONING BOARD TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING

The Grayling Township Board of Appeals will meet in public session on Monday, February 20, 2006, at 7 p.m., at the Grayling Town Hall to consider the following request:

Case No.	06-02
Petitioner	Robert and Janice Zalobsky 915 Harlequin Ct. Highland, MI 48357
Location	265 Black Bear Drive Grayling, MI 49738 T26N, R2W, Section 7
Prop. ID#	040-45-900-00-014-00
Lot Size:	Approximately 100 X 430 (43,000 sf within Thendara Subdivision) with 102-feet of river frontage
Zoning:	Natural River District (NRD)

To construct a one and one-half story home in the Natural River District 20-feet from the east property line, a (1st) variance of 20-feet, and 20-feet from the west property line, a (2nd) variance of 20-feet. All construction is to be 200-feet or more from the AuSable River.

Thendara Subdivision was dedicated on November 29, 1945, making the lot in question a non-conforming lot, due to lot size, by today's zoning requirements.

Note: Case #06-02 was previously heard in January 2005, and has been sent back to the Grayling Township Zoning Board of Appeals upon an appeal to the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford.

Text of zoning requests and zoning maps are available for review at the Grayling Township Hall, located at 2090 Viking Way, Grayling, MI 49738, during normal business hours.

Persons wishing to, may comment in person at the hearing, or send a signed statement to: Terry Wright, Zoning Administrator; PO Box 521; Grayling, MI 49738

Terry Wright
Supervisor

FEATURES

A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE



Grayling Co-op Nursery School students and parents enjoyed a sledding party, using garbage bags to ride down Hanson Hills.

23 Years Ago

February 2, 1983

Financial and pollution problems have surfaced at the Crawford/Otsego Landfill located in northern Maple Forest Township off Sherman Road. The most pressing problem brought out at a special meeting on Jan. 31, was a total of \$17,500 in unpaid bills.

A fire started at approximately 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, on the second floor of the Press building in the press heating pump room of Weyerhaeuser's Structurwood Mill on Four Mile Road. The fire, which started in a bearing in one of the press oil heating pumps, was extinguished by mill personnel. The fire departments were called since this system is pumping thermal oil and initially there was open flames and a large amount of

smoke.

Grayling Winter Carnival officials would like at least six more inches of snow for building ice sculptures at this year's carnival. But unless a snow storm dumps half a foot of snow soon, building will be difficult.

Shell Oil Company is proposing building an \$18 to \$22 million oil and gas production facility four and a half miles north of Frederic. One Shell official said although the project is in the early planning stages, Shell has the money to invest and a central production facility near Frederic would be a worthy investment for Shell and a benefit to Crawford County.

Sixteen year old Karyn Reynolds, of Grayling, was the gold medal winner in the Women's Giant Slalom Event held at the United States Ski

Association - Central Division sanctioned races held at Boyne Mountain.

Grayling Vikings basketball team was left out in the cold last week running into two hot teams, losing 85-55 to Roscommon and 85-65 to Boyne City.

Seven year old Joshua Wyss of Grayling, earned a Gamefish Release award in the 48th Annual Metropolitan South Florida Fishing Tournament when he caught and released ten snappers in the PeeWee Division. He fished with Capt. Wyss, out of Perdue-Dean Tackle Shop in Key Largo.

The Grayling High School Players will present the award winning and highly acclaimed play, "On Golden Pond," on March 3, 4, and 5.

46 Years Ago

February 4, 1960

Five queens are already entered for the title of Miss Michigan Winter Sports Queen of 1960. They are Bonnie Borchers, Miss Grayling; Noreen Johnson, Miss Cooley High; Mary Lou Adamski, Miss Bay City; Judith Schmidt, Miss Kalkaska; and Miss Houghton Lake, who is yet to be named.

The Frederic Eagles basketball team came up with a pair of wins last week defeating Merritt 55-50 and Alba 55-47.

Fresh pizza pies, a large, pound and a quarter for \$1.29 and a medium 9 oz. for 79¢ (with or without meat), available at Burrows Market, located at 228 Michigan Ave.

The Mothers March for funds and facts for the National Foundation held in Crawford County and across the nation was highly successful locally.

69 Years Ago

February 4, 1937

A group of Michigan guardsman from Midland were in Grayling to drive a fleet of trucks to Flint for use in keeping order and protecting property during the strike of auto workers.

Foryst Barber who is working for a machinery company in Ohio, was home over the weekend and says that he happened to be in the flood district at Cincinnati when the flood happened and he had many thrilling tales to tell.

The new fire department was pressed into use once more when an alarm was sounded because of a roof fire.

92 Years Ago

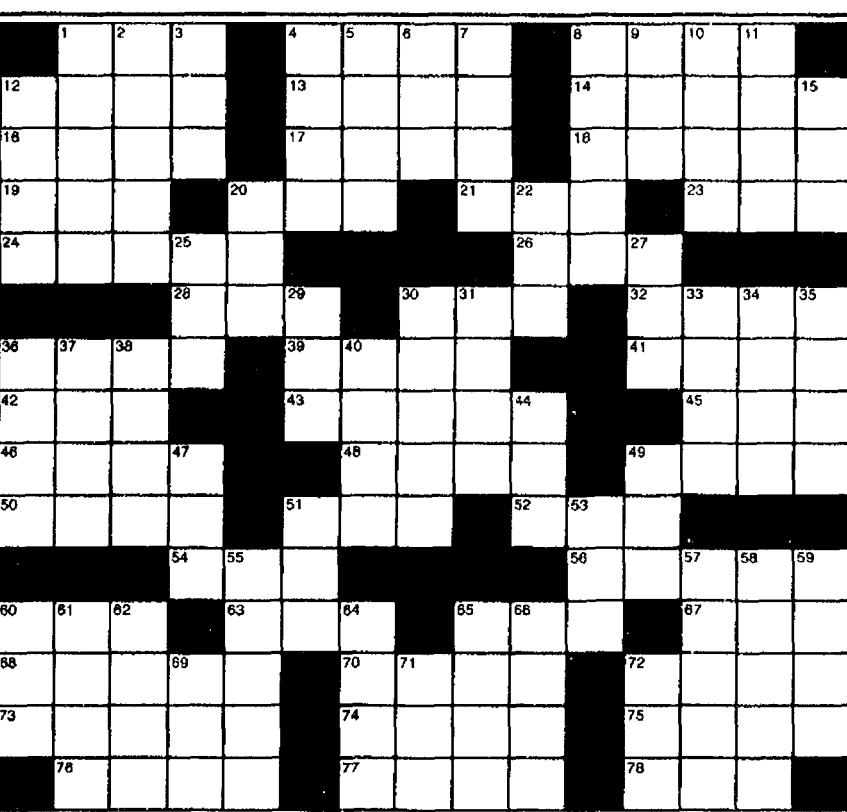
February 5, 1914

The Grayling Opera House Company elected officers for the ensuing year, at their directors' meeting, John Hum was elected president.

Rev. Hufton captured a screech owl that had perched upon his window sill and now it is in a fine, roomy cage.

Each succeeding junior class dreams of social triumph in the event of its Junior party, and the pretty affair given by the class of 1915 at the opera house was up to the standing in every way.

CROSSWORD



Across

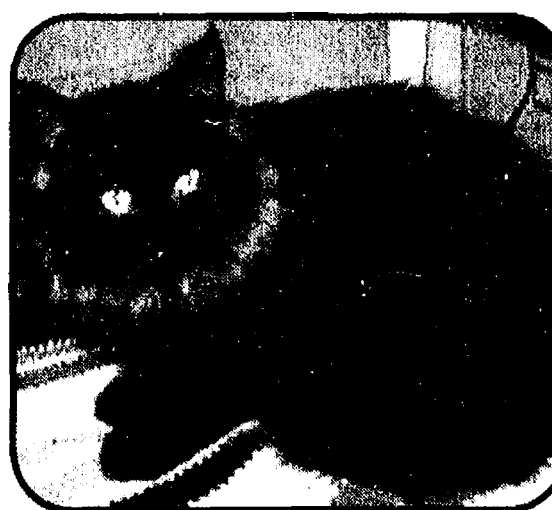
1. Having no adornment or coloration.
4. Swindle.
8. Render impassable.
12. Small ocean salmon.
13. Catcher's wire mask.
14. Repairs.
16. Dialect variant of "against."
17. Affirm positively.
18. Register formally as a member.
19. White metal extracted from ore at low temperatures.
20. Pay as a penalty.
21. An age.
23. Keep in a sty.
24. Largest city in South Korea.
26. Spore-bearing portion of a capsule.
28. Most common color for five dollar chips.
30. Small lump.
32. Liquid, edible fats that are obtained from plants.
36. Edelman, Stanley Zbornak on The Golden Girls.
39. Elevated lyrical poems.
41. Greek goddess of the earth.
42. Slang for "outstanding."
43. Become mature.
45. Non-separating chemical mixture resembling jelly.
46. Largest artificial satellite of Saturn.
48. McNow, 1999 Senior Bowl MVP.
49. Tiny microscope opening in the skin.
50. Small replica of a person.
51. Florida Senator, Martinez.
52. Play idly with.
54. Remove something burdensome.
56. Engage in plotting or enter into a conspiracy.
60. Pole used to propel a boat.
63. Define article.
65. Seventh letter of the Greek alphabet.
67. Dormitory of the sultan's seraglio.
68. Tract of wasteland.
70. Quick to move.
72. Images of a supernatural being.
73. Sequence of photographs projected on to a screen.
74. Inflammatory disease involving the sebaceous glands of the skin.
75. Beehive state.
76. Aert van der, Dutch Baroque painter.
77. Cylinder forming a long part of something.
78. Ancient Greek goddess personifying night.

Down

1. Informal term for "dogs."
2. Publication from a non-profit literary organization in Evanston, IL.
3. Literary or dialect.
4. Protective crust that forms over a wound during the healing process.
5. Short-tailed, rough-haired South American rodent.
6. Late time of life.
7. Expanse of standing water.
8. Clip at right angles.
9. The American, group of painters from New York and Boston from 1898 to 1919.
10. Implements used to propel a boat.
11. Form a scheme of mischief against another.
12. Old Possum's Book of Practical.
15. Cunning.
20. Drink heavier and more bitter than beer.
22. Cause friction.
25. Urban area.
27. Wooden pin pushed or driven into a surface.
29. Ancient royal city of the Canaanites.
30. Small landlocked Asian country high in the Himalayas between India and China.
31. Secondhand.
33. Welsh and Galician form of "Jacob."
34. Oven in which glassware is annealed.
35. City in Morocco.
36. With great force or severity.
37. Delayed repetition of a sound.
38. Lively Irish dance.
40. Of no use.
44. Player's final score after subtracting handicaps.
47. Used in scoring to indicate a tie.
49. Monetary unit of Burma.
51. Ratio of the distance traveled in miles to the time spent traveling in hours.
53. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.
55. Recently in the past.
57. That which is seized by violence.
58. Large, desert-dwelling antelope.
59. Throwaway.
60. Georg Simon, German physicist.
61. In astronomical terms, 1,000 million years.
62. Long and animated conversation.
64. Unledged falcon or other birds of prey.
65. River, in northwestern Ireland.
66. Bring forth.
69. Fasten.
71. Bill which has passed through various legislative steps and become law.
72. Forcibly terminate a program.

ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

ADOPT A PET



Kismet

is about 6 months old and a very cuddly girl. She is spayed, current on her shots, and tested negative for feline leukemia.



Barney

is 2 or 3 years old and a very nice boy. He is neutered, current on his shots, and appears to be housebroken.

The Animal Shelter of Crawford County is located at: 508 1/2 Huron Street (M-72 East) in Grayling

Between the Road Commission and the Eagles Hall

Hours: Open 9 to 3 Monday thru Saturday, 9 to 12 on Sundays and Holidays

After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

For more pets or more information, visit our website www.ascc.petfinder.com

WEATHER

Courtesy of the City of Grayling

Last Week

Date	H	L	Snow
1/25	33	23	4
1/26	24	19	T
1/27	32	19	0
1/28	46	26	0
1/29	46	22	0
1/30	49	32	1/4
1/31	32	24	1/2

Extended Forecast

(Courtesy of the Weather.com)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
High 36 Low 31	High 34 Low 23	High 26 Low 20	High 26 Low 21	High 22 Low 19	High 27 Low 22
Rain/Snow Showers	Partly Cloudy	Few Snow Showers	Snow Shower	AM Clouds PM Sun	Partly Cloudy

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

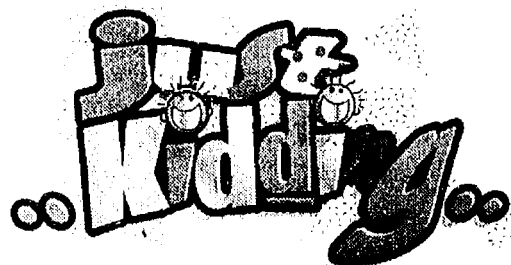
Pulled Pork with BBQ Root Beer Sauce

- 1 8-pound pork shoulder
- Salt and pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, separated and peeled
- Reduce 1 2-liter bottle root beer to 1 cup
- 1 1/2 cups Apple Cider Vinegar
- 1/2 cup Ketchup
- 1/2 cup Yellow Mustard

- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tablespoon hot sauce
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons cold, unsalted butter

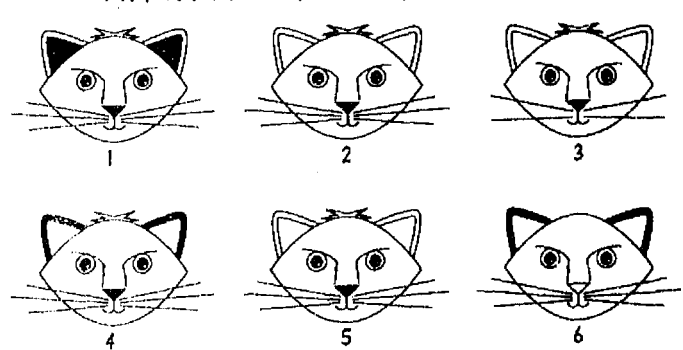
Preheat oven to 225 degrees. Place the pork shoulder, fat side up, in large roasting pan and season well with salt and pepper to taste. Toss 2 heads of garlic cloves that have been peeled, but leave cloves whole around the pork. Cover well with heavy-duty aluminum foil. Slow-cook in the oven until tender and falling apart, and the internal temperature reaches 160 degrees. This should take about 6 to 8 hours. Remove from oven and let pork rest for 20 to 30 minutes. With two forks, pull apart meat into small chunks. Toss with the root beer BBQ sauce and serve. Root beer BBQ sauce: Reduce the root beer to 1 cup over medium heat in a large saucepan-this takes about 1 hour. Add the vinegar, ketchup, mustard, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, hot sauce, salt, and pepper. Stir well and simmer for 20 minutes. Finish the sauce by whisking in the cold butter for extra body and flavor. TIP: Never use diet root beer in this recipe! The sugar in the root beer is critical to the success of the recipe.

Makes 6-8 servings



FIND THE TWINS

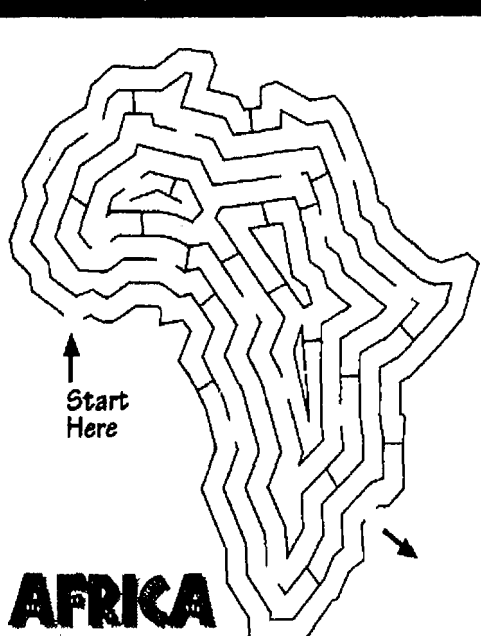
WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



DID YOU KNOW ??

Two-thirds of the world's eggplant is grown in New Jersey.

MAZE



HOROSCOPES

For the Week of February 2, 2006



December 22-January 19

Pandemonium breaks out at work but your cool head gets everyone through. Enjoy the kudos, Capricorn. A message from home kicks life up a notch.



March 21-April 19

A young friend has made some unwise decisions and could use some guidance. Be there for them, Aries, but don't go overboard or they won't learn a thing.



June 22-July 22

Wishy-washiness is getting you nowhere, Cancer. Stand up for yourself and let others know what you think. You will be rewarded in ways unimaginable.



September 23-October 22

Whoa, Libra. Don't rush to fix a social blunder. Any sudden moves on your part will only seem insincere. Take your time and proceed with caution.



January 20-February 18

Clearly you're smarter than the average bear, Aquarius. Don't be afraid to use your intelligence to your advantage, especially at work. A new fitness routine makes life easier.



April 20-May 20

You're the star of an upcoming event. What a hoot for you, Taurus. Enjoy the limelight and have fun. A memento is cause for reflection and inspiration for change.



July 23-August 22

You're the darling of a party. Who knew that you could be so much fun, Leo? Your newfound confidence will result in many more invitations. Attend them all!



October 23-November 21

By all means your knowledge of the subject makes you an authority, Scorpio. Others may not see it that way, however. Don't take it to heart. Keep working and another opportunity will arise.



February 19-March 20

Hurry, Pisces. That little matter that has been on your mind lately has grown. Resolve it now. The mad rush of repairs at home finally ends. Celebrate with a night out.



May 21-June 21

Frankness is not your style, Gemini, but you have no choice. A coworker is in trouble and if you don't say something, tragedy could occur. A memo inspires you to try something new.



August 23-September 22

An old friend causes quite a stir at a social function. Steer clear of them for a while, Virgo, and give them time to sort through their feelings. A design project goes as planned.



November 22-December 21

Restlessness takes over at work. Don't fall prey to it, Sagittarius. Strap on your thinking cap and let the muse take over. A financial proposal tempts you—be strong.

ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Classifieds must be paid for in advance

Display Advertising Rate - \$6.90 per column inch

Deadline for Display Classifieds - 12 noon, Monday

Classifieds by the word rate - \$5.00 for 15 words or

less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:

www.townnews.com/avalanche/

Classified by the word deadline - 12 noon, Tuesday

Crawford County Avalanche

1. Real Estate

LOW INCOME housing available to purchase. Apply with Connie at Century 21. Call for an appointment. 348-5474 or cell 390-2888. Currently 5 homes available. (-2-9-16/1)

1. Real Estate

AUSABLE RIVER FRONT PROPERTY only 100 feet off black top. all utilities in area. Property dimensions are: 100' x 250'. Priced to sell at \$44,900. 973-579-2429. (-2-6-2-9/1)

1. Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE nice location in town. 3 bedroom, 1 bath with whirlpool tub, fuel oil/wood burning furnace in basement, all appliances included, needs work. Owner in military and must sell. Price reduced. \$64,900. Call 732-3473. (-2-6-2/1)

1. Real Estate

FOR SALE BY OWNER 2 bedroom, 1 bath, recent updates inside and out. Private yard, walking distance to park and library. Near I-75/US127, snowmobile, ski and golf area. Paved road - 8306 S. Grayling Rd. \$67,500. 989-422-6260. (LR2/23/06/1)

1. Real Estate

HIGGINS LAKE AREA \$99,000. infotube.net, ad #130512. Priced to sell. (989) 281-0321. (LR2/02/06/1)

MANY NORTHERN MICHIGAN Properties www.century21grayling.com (1/7/99tf/1)

FOR SALE 2.3 acres on East Branch with 230' frontage, 2 miles to city limits. \$52,000. 989-619-9031. (-2-9/1)

FIND THAT VACATION CABIN OR HOME in the Avalanche For Rent Classifieds 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling - (989) 348-6811

2. For Rent

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY house and cottage rentals near Roscommon, Grayling, on Higgins Lake and on Houghton Lake. Higgins North Vacation Rentals. (989) 821-3434. (12/25/03tf/2)

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE for rent. \$450 and up. 989-348-5278. References, some pet restrictions. Seniors welcome. (-12/02/04tf/2)

ROOMY 1 BEDROOM upper apartment, in good neighborhood. Includes gas, electric, water, stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer and digital cable. Carpeted throughout. No children, no smoking, no pets. \$580 per month plus deposit. References required. Phone: 348-8993. (-2-9/2)

FOR RENT in downtown Grayling, one and two bedroom apartments. References, security deposit and first months rent. No pets. For more information please contact Steve at (989) 619-9689. (LR2/02/06/2)

FOR RENT in downtown Grayling, two bedroom, one bathroom home. \$550 per month, located at 404 Brink Street. References, security deposit and first months rent. No pets. For more information please contact Steve at (989) 619-9689. (-2-6-2/2)

1. Real Estate

GREAT LAKES MORTGAGE SERVICES CORP.

"A Guide in the Right Direction"

With over 10 years experience in the mortgage industry and access to over 60 lenders, we have the expertise and connections to get you the best mortgage loan and rates available.

- 0 Down Purchases
- 100% Refinance
- Mobile
- Manufactured
- Construction
- Home Improvement
- Vacant Property
- Vacation Homes



Lori Ellis

501 North James Street.
Grayling, MI 49738
989-348-7500 (Phone)
866-948-7500 (Toll Free)
989-348-7575 (Fax)



Member of the Grayling Chamber of Commerce



Stunning full log home on Wakeley Creek. You won't be able to wipe the grin off your face when you walk into this spectacular home. Open-log staircase, wood flooring, Amish made cabinetry, Cathedral Pine ceilings, extensive wrap around decking. \$294,000 #5588



Century 21

River Country Real Estate
5688 West M-72 & 2375 S. Blumens Loop
(989) 348-5474

RE/MAX of Grayling
Debbie Bender Bonkowski
Associate Broker

REDUCED & MOTIVATED SELLER

LARGE FAMILY HOME IN THE CITY. 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, family room, over 2,100 sq. ft. with many newer updates, especially in the interior. 9' ceilings, large family room with tile, pine, natural gas free standing wood stove, ceramic floors & counters in the spacious kitchen, pergola floors in the formal dining room, built-in appliances, lots of original charm to this lovely home. Must take a tour to truly appreciate. \$94,900 #DBU-2145

1 YEAR HOME WARRANTY INCLUDED

Assisting you in your real estate needs.
Contact me to list your property.

Century 21 RIVER COUNTRY

Winning Office of 8 Quality Service Awards

NEW LISTING

Bigger than you think... 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room and family room, 3 car garage with drive through doors, a car hoist and an attached finished/heated office plumbed for a bathroom. Large yard, shed, garden and more. \$89,500 #5629

NEW LISTING

Totally updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath Mobile, sitting on a beautiful 2 acre wooded parcel. 2 story shed with a lean to for extra storage or wood. Fire pit out back for those camp fire nights. State Land right across the street for all the outdoor activities. \$45,000 #5630

What a setting! This 2 bedroom is situated on 2 lots in Grayling Mobile Estates. Home features 2 garages, hobby house, shed and sun porch with wood burner. Great spot for primary residence. Seller is licensed Real Estate Broker in the state of Michigan. \$39,750 #5569

Rising cost of fuel won't affect this property! Beautiful log home can be totally heated with the wood burning system hooked directly through Central heating system. 11 acres, 50x50 horse barn with 4 stalls, round pen and more. \$310,000 #5510

Cozy 3 bedroom Chalet in a peaceful setting near Lowell. Home features Knotty Pine interior, breezeway to garage, front & rear decking and all the amenities of Warbler's Hideaway. Close access to the Ausable River & snowmobile/ORV trails. #5500 \$88,900

COMMERCIAL

High traffic and high visibility on this corner which fronts two major roadways. Property has C-3 zoning which permits almost any business. May be a perfect location for a franchise restaurant, car wash or any business that seeks high street side exposure. \$74,900 #5416

Cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath mobile home with a stick built addition. Located on a paved road, setting on 2.5 acres with a pond, 24x40 pole barn and an additional out building. #5563 \$47,000.

16 Acres to play on. This wonderful 2 bedroom, 1 bath, home is in "move-in" condition. It's located off an asphalt county maintained road plus it has a 2 car garage. What more could you ask for? \$94,900 #5533

Enjoy the pines of Grayling! This 10 acre parcel is almost 100% wooded with beautiful mature pines, secluded location with electric approximately 600 feet away. Perfect for that get-a-way cabin you always wanted or the full time home you need. Owner will consider land contract or possible trade. \$29,500 #5628

10 acres on the East Branch of the Ausable River. Mature trees on this awesome 10 acre parcel, which is a great location to enjoy year round activities. Build your cabin you have always dreamed of or full time home on the river. \$85,000 #5625

www.century21grayling.com

989-348-5474
877-763-1478

5688 West M-72
Grayling, Michigan 49738

Randy Thompson
Broker / Owner

Connie Winans
Associate Broker

Casey Thompson
Sales Agent

Randall Hartley
Sales Agent

Bill Borchers
Sales Associate

Curt Jensen
Sales Associate

Jerry Goanell
Associate Broker

Bob Pollack
Associate Broker

Scott Hanson
Sales Agent

Vicki Harrington
Sales Agent

Sheryl Herbel
Sales Agent

Pete Kocela
Sales Agent

RE/MAX of Grayling
5728 M-72 West
EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

CHARLENE SCHEER
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Narrow your search, broaden your opportunities

When you're looking for the right agent or the right home, we want to save you time and frustration.

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Nobody in the world sells more real estate than RE/MAX. And when you visit RE/MAX online, you'll see why. It's the home of the industry's top, most experienced agents - across the country and the globe.

Stop by today.

DESIGNED WITH DISTINCTION. This 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home has many features. Kitchen offers hickory cabinets, 2 Lazy Susans and pantry. Top of the line appliances and Neptune washer and dryer to stay. Large laundry room with folding counter. Dining room offers wet bar and snack bar. Living room offers a gas fireplace and large family room. Large breezeway off garage with 1/2 bath. CS-2216 \$169,900

10 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL HARWOODS. This rolling terrain is full of wildlife and is close to state land. Electricity is at road and the access road is blacktop. CS-2217 \$32,000

TERRIFIC LOCATION FOR RETAIL BUSINESS! Prime corner lot with high visibility and traffic flow! Excellent location for gas station/convenience store, storage units, office complex, etc. Zoned C-1 Commercial. Thinking of owning your own business? Call Charlene Scheer today and I'll help you get started. CS-1415 \$104,500

WOODED, OVERSIZED LOT in quiet subdivision. Close to North Higgins Lake State Park. Lot 90x132. Nice hardwoods. Great building site. CS-1179 \$9,000

394' FRONTAGE ON THE AUSABLE RIVER MAINSTREAM. Very private setting, yet close to town. A mixture of oak and pine tree coverage. Excellent site on bend of river with a zoning variance to build 125' from the river's edge with Natural Gas/Consumers Power. CH-2191 \$99,900

3 B/R HOME WITH STUDIO/GUEST HOUSE. Freshly remodeled and redecorated country home. 1,515 s.f., 3 B/R, sunken living room with gas fireplace. Dining room with fireplace. 24x28 garage with 576 s.f. finished studio-guest house with kitchenette and bath. Landscaped yard with flower/herb gardens and pond. Energy efficient with natural gas drive. Gerrish-Higgins School District. CH-1876 \$99,500

HANDYMAN'S SPECIAL 864 s.f., 2 bedrooms, one bath, two sliding doorways, and large 24x24 pole barn. Close to North Branch Ausable River, state land, and snowmobile trails. CH-2104 \$54,900

(989) 348-7440 You're #1 with us **800-731-4002**

See us on the internet www.remax-grayling-mi.com

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday by appointment only.

2. For Rent

RAYNE FOREST RENTALS 1, 2 and 3 bedroom duplexes, \$400 to \$500 per month. 348-5230. (1/12/06tf/2)

LAKE HOME FOR RENT Beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom home with view and access to Lake Margrethe. Large lot with 2-car garage and paved driveway. Kitchen appliances included. \$800 per month plus security, no pets. Call 586-228-2874. (LR2/09/06/2)

9424 OLD 27 SOUTH 3 bedroom, 1 bath, with garage. Available 2/01/06. \$525 monthly plus security, plus utilities. Please contact Craig, 348-7440 or stop by RE/MAX of Grayling for a rental application. (LR2/16/06/2)

HOUSE FOR RENT Brand new duplex, all appliances included, range, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, washer, dryer, 2-car garage. M-72 East, Barker Lake Rd., 2 miles from town. No pets, credit references, \$650/month plus \$650 deposit. 989-348-4716. (2/26/06tf/2)

RENT TO OWN! If you pay rent, you can own! Stop paying off your landlord's mortgage! You can Rent-To-Own your own home even with poor credit! Call Steven at 866-860-7994. 24 hour recorded message.

FOR RENT Grayling Housing Commission

Is taking applications for a (1) bedroom apartment. Base Rent is based on 30% of Adjusted Income
Maximum Ceiling Rents

**1 Bedroom.....\$400
Rent Includes Utilities**

**308 Lawndale Drive
989-348-9314**



2. For Rent

CLEAN 1 BEDROOM fully furnished home, just steps from Higgins Lake, no pets, available immediately. 231-218-8529. (-26-2/9/2)

GRAYLING 3 BEDROOM 2 bath house with range, refrigerator, washer/dryer, in town, available immediately. \$600 plus utilities and deposit. 989-350-0123. (-26-2/2)

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT non-smoking, no pets, \$474/month plus. 348-4840. (LR2/16/06/2)

FURNISHED small, 1 1/2 bedroom cottage with garage. Convenient to Grayling or Roscommon, quiet, wildlife. \$500 a month, first and last months rent. 989-939-8965. (-2-9/2)

EXECUTIVE STYLE HOME \$700 per month, Grayling area. Please call 989-348-3935. (-2/2)

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT \$425 per month, utilities included, located in town. 710-1194 or 370-2745. (-2/2)

NEWER 3 BEDROOM 2 bath with fireplace, 2-car garage. Emily Lane off Old 27, Beaver Creek Township. \$700 per month, \$700 security deposit, no pets. 989-275-2804. (-2/2)

WHISPERING PINES APARTMENTS 595 Meadows Drive in Grayling, is currently accepting applications for beautiful 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Whispering Pines is an elderly community. Residents must be 62 plus years of age (or disabled of any age). Rent is based on income. Barrier-free waiting list available. Please call (989) 344-0020 for more information or an application. Equal Housing Opportunity. TDD 1-800-649-3777. (-2/2)

THE CLASSIFIED - The perfect place to find that first car. (989) 348-6811

1. For Rent

GRAYLING PINES APARTMENTS 595 Meadows Drive in Grayling, is currently accepting applications for beautiful 1 & 2 bedroom apartments. Grayling Pines is a family community. Rent is based on income. Barrier-free waiting list available. Please call (989) 344-0020 for more information or an application. Equal Housing Opportunity. TDD 1-800-649-3777. (-2/2)

3. Employment

HILLTOP MANOR Health Care Center has openings for CENA's. We have full-time mid-night and afternoon shifts, along with part-time weekend, days. We offer competitive wages along with a benefit package for full-time and part-time employees. If you would like to join a winning team, please come in and complete an application at: 1290 East Michigan Highway, Roscommon, MI 48653. Hilltop Manor is an equal opportunity employer. (-2-9/3)

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ASPHALT Now accepting applications and resumes for asphalt positions. Roller operators, laborers, plant operator. Experience required and must have good driving record. CDL would be a plus. Wage depending on experience. Excellent benefits package. Please apply at Elmer's Crane and Dozer, Inc., 3600 Rennie School Rd., Traverse City, MI 49684 or fax resume to 231-943-5510, or visit our website at www.teamelmers.com EOE (-19-26-2/3)

THE CLASSIFIED - The perfect place to find what you want. (989) 348-6811

HELP WANTED Nurse's Aid positions available at The Brook Retirement Community, 3rd shift, part-time in Houghton Lake and 3rd shift, part-time in Roscommon, (10:30p-6:30a) Competitive salary/benefits. Fill out an application onsite Monday thru Friday, 9 am - 3 pm by Feb. 13. (-2-9/3)

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4. Services Offered

RTH HOME IMPROVEMENT all your interior and exterior needs. Garages, additions, drywall, painting, roofing, siding, decks, and more. Licensed and insured, free estimates. Rob Harrington 989-344-1383. (-9/16/04tf/4)

ROSES ARE RED, the sky is blue, send a Valentine message to someone special from you! Call the *Crawford County Avalanche* at (989) 348-6811 or stop by office. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling

4. Services Offered

CAR DETAILING: Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle, inside & out! 348-7710. (9/29/05tf/4)

SPRING AND SUMMER driver's training is offered by the Grayling Driver's training School. Class begins March 7, June 8 & July 10. Contact Howard Lehti, 989-348-8838 for registration materials. (LR3/2/06/4)

AUTO GLASS repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710. (9/29/05tf/4)

Nieman's Income Tax Service
Martin Nieman
2133 Heightsview Dr
Houghton Lake, MI 48621
989-348-0553

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West Branch Regional Medical Center:
Certified Bio-Medical Technician - Full Time.
Associates in electronics with medical

4. Services Offered

SEWING, ZIPPERS, MENDING quilter. Ask for Lorrie (989)348-9349. (LR02/02/06/4)

SNOW PLOWING roof snow and ice removal. Hauling to land fill. Truck with rack, anything else. Grayling, Higgins Lake and Gaylord area. 989-348-7046. (LR2/16/06/4)

ALWAYS LOW PRICE snow plowing. Call 989-344-2134. Cell 989-390-9129. (LR03/30/06/4)

PROFESSIONAL HEMMING jeans, dresses, slacks, etc. 989-344-2444. (LR3/02/06/4)

"WE'LL PAINT YOUR HOME like it was our own." Interior/exterior house painting. Small local company with reasonable rates. Free estimates. 248-420-0043 (cell). (LR2/23/06/4)

8. Announcements

Grayling Car Care IS OPEN LATE ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 9:30 A.M. - 6 P.M. 989-348-3200

8. Announcements

SOUTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING & ANNUAL MEETING FOR GENERAL AND SPECIAL FUNDS

The South Branch Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed Township Budget for fiscal year 2006-2007 at South Branch Township Hall, 5245 N. M-18, Roscommon, MI 48653 on February 14th, 2006 in conjunction with the regular board meeting. Final adoption of the 2006-2007 budget will take place during the annual meeting, scheduled to follow the regular meeting of March 14th, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the hearing.

A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the South Branch Township Hall.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended, MCLA 41.72a(2)(3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The South Branch Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 10 days notice to the Township Board. Individuals with disabilities should contact the Board by writing or calling Laura Smith Clerk, South Branch Township Hall, P.O. Box 606, Roscommon, MI 48653. (989) 275-8232.

4. Services Offered

CHILD'S PLAY DAY CARE is accepting children, full and part time. FIA accepted, first aid and CPR. Call 989-348-4249. (LR2/02/06/4)

D. HAWES/DRIVER'S EDUCATION Northern Driving School is offering classes in Grayling in March, May, June and July, Roscommon (February, April), Mio (February, April, June). Newer model cars, professional instructors. Segment I - \$230. Segment II - \$30. No hidden costs like all other local schools. (989) 344-2470. (-2/4)

WILL CLEAN YOUR HOME I charge by the job. leave a message, 348-8192. (-2-9/4)

9. Personals

Isn't she nifty at 50. . .
In ten years that is!



(You'll always be older than me)

Happy Birthday
Pam Ferrigan

8. Announcements

4. Services Offered

PEGASUS VENTURES is pleased to bring its internet services to the Grayling area. Our websites for business are just \$295 for the year including design, hosting, and updates throughout the year. Please visit our local clients at www.warbler-swaymotel.com and www.graylingmfghousing.net. Call Terry for more information at (989) 390-5217. Visit our website at www.pegasus-ventures.com. (-2-9/4)

5. For Sale

QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS set with Amish made pine log headboard and free frame still in plastic, never used. Cost \$800, will sacrifice for \$235. Call (989) 429-1511. (7/3/03tf/5)

QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP mattress and box springs new in plastic with Amish made pine log headboard. Cost \$995 will sacrifice for \$285. Call (989) 429-1511. (7/3/03tf/5)

AMISH BUILT pine log bed. Queen size, beautiful, must see. Will sell for \$265. Queen size mattress set, new in plastic with free frame will sacrifice \$150. Call (989) 429-1511. (7/3/03tf/5)

GAGNON ESTATE AUCTION Feb. 4, 10 am, Mio. View full details online or call for flyer. Lets Talk Auction Co. (989)848-5158. www.LetsTalkAuction.com (-2/5)

SEASONED FIREWOOD Call 989-344-2036. (-2/5)

TEACUP POODLE 10 weeks, male. 989-348-5275. (LR2/09/06/5)

2002 YAMAHA BIG BEAR 4x4, 800 miles, \$3,500/OBO. 989-3248-4630. (-26-2/5)

1996 POLARIS INDY 500 reverse, electric start, studded, good condition, 4,300 miles, \$1,350 or best. 810-560-0151. (-2/5)

CAN'T FIT THE CAR IN THE GARAGE? Sell those extra goodies quick with an ad in Avalanche For Sale Classifieds. (989) 348-6811

5. For Sale

PICKUP TRUCK SHELL will fit Toyota and S-10 short bed, black with side latch windows, \$350. Class 2 Reese trailer hitch, \$100. Men's Fischer x-country ski's, size 12 boots, bindings and poles, used twice, \$160. 989-348-9354. (-2/5)

6. Wanted

WANTED-SCRAP VEHICLES top dollar paid. Pick up available. 888-471-3818. (3/3/05tf/6)

7. Miscellaneous

REWARD White cat with orange markings, lost Jan. 9, in woods behind vets office. Please call 344-0592. (-19-26-2/7)

RENT TO OWN ELECTRONICS computers, furniture, appliances, jewelry. Easy weekly or monthly payment plan. No credit needed. No obligation. Ask for details about our new "Bonus Buck" program. Call Continental Home Centers today (989) 348-2499. (LR7/27/06/7)

REWARD: Lost, a large amount of money in the parking lot of Family Dollar, Continental Rental area on Friday the 27th. Still in Credit Union envelope. If you found this money and have a heart, please call 989-915-1889. (-2/7)

ROSES ARE RED, the sky is blue, send a Valentine message to someone special from you! Call the Crawford County Avalanche at (989) 348-6811 or stop by the office at 102 Michigan Avenue, Grayling

11. Automotive

CAR DETAILING: Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle, inside & out! 348-7710. (9/29/05tf/11)

1999 MAZDA PROTEGE ES automatic, 4-cylinder, 4-door, AC, AM/FM, rear defrost, 43,400 miles, clean, no rust, \$6,200/OBO. 989-821-6424. (LR2/02/06/11)

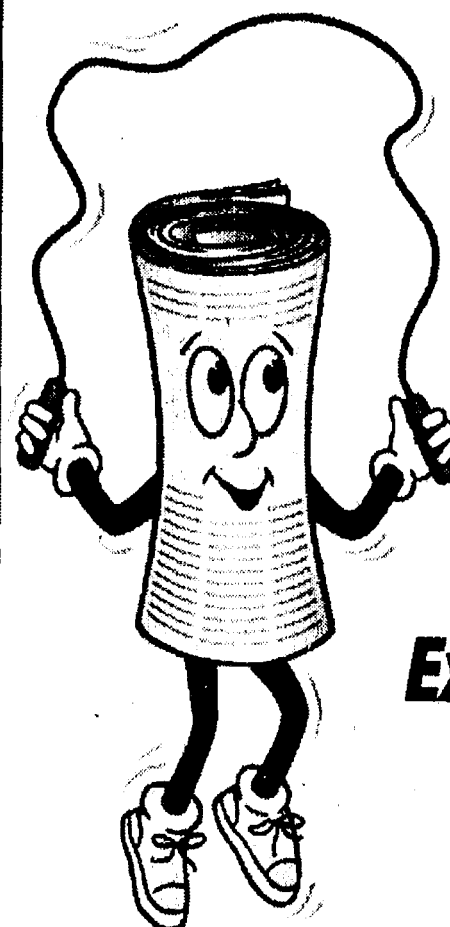
AUTO GLASS repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710. (9/29/05tf/11)

1998 FORD ESCORT \$3,500/OBO. 344-0611. (-2-9/11)

8. Announcements

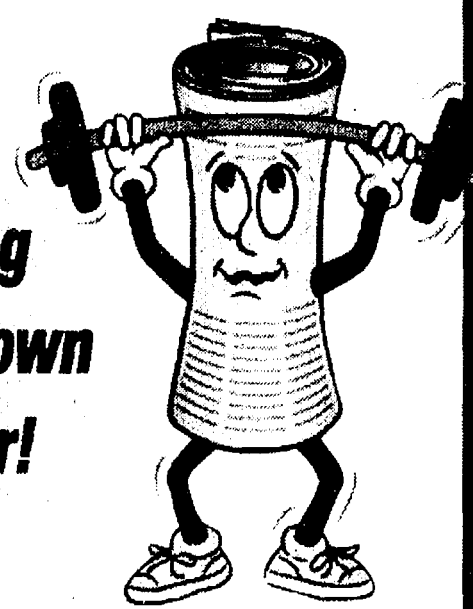
8. Announcements

Are you looking for a new exercise routine?

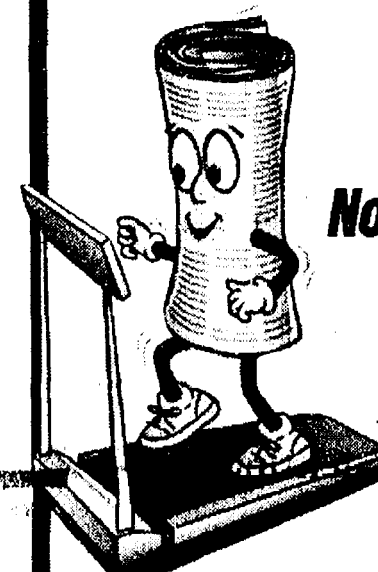


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... by reading your hometown newspaper!



Now there's a routine we can all live with!



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GOVERNMENT FORECLOSED HOMES!!! \$0 or Low Down! No credit OK! Bank & Gov't Repos available now! HUD, VA, FHA For Listings 800-755-9719

SOUTHERN COLORADO RANCH SALE 35 ACRES - \$49,900 Enjoy stunning sunsets, spectacular mountain views all from your own private ranch. Year round access, elec/ tel included. Excellent Financing w/ low down payment. Call for appointment! Toll free 1-866-696-5263

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EMPLOYMENT

AIRLINE MECHANIC - Rapid training for high paying Aviation Career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if qualify - Job placement assistance. Call AIM (888) 349-5387.

ANNOUNCING \$.50/MILE for all OTR miles everywhere! We're raising pay in 2006! One year over-the-road experience required. Heartland Express 1-800-441-4953 www.heartlandexpress.com

DRIVERS - CHECK OUT THE CHANGES! No Experience? No Problem! CDL Training Available. 100% Tuition Reimbursement. Top Trainee Pay! 1-800-231-5209 www.SwiftTruckingJobs.com

AS A CLASS A DRIVER, you're looking for one thing: Miles! Drive with a company that has the freight to keep you running - and starts you out at 40 - 42 CPM. Assigned trucks, full benefits, home-time you can count on. EOE. 3 Mos Exp Req. 1-877-452-5627.

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DETENTION OFFICER: Phoenix, Arizona. Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. \$14.99/hr. Excellent benefits. No experience necessary. Contact 602-307-5245, 1-877-352-6276, or www.mcso.org. 350 vacancies, including civilian positions.

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT. Regional Runs Available. Excellent Pay & Benefits. Exp. Drivers, Teams, O/O & Students Welcome. Refrigerated Now Available. 888-MORE-PAY (1-888-667-3729).

DRIVER - KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION Everything is up @ Knight. Pay Rate!! Speed of Trucks!! Call us & start enjoying the good life. 888-346-4639 www.knighttrans.com. Class-A CDL/6 months OTR.

DRIVERS - SEMI-OTR Top pay for Experience. Benefits, Quality Home Time plus Reefer Regional and Dedicated positions for upper Midwest. Call Buske 1-800-879-2486 x 286

DRIVERS/DRIVING SCHOOL GRADUATES wanted. Tuition reimbursement. No waiting for trainers. Passenger Policy. No NYC. Guaranteed Hometown. Dedicated and regional available. USA Truck 866-483-3413

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GOV'T JOBS \$12-\$48/hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Many Government Positions Available. Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife and more! Call 7 days. 1-800-320-9353 ext 2518.

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ARE YOU MAKING \$1,710 per week? All cash vending routes with prime locations available now! Under \$9,000 investment required. Call Toll Free (24-7) 800-637-7444

SERVICES

REACH 3.1 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$999 - Contact this newspaper for details.

FOR SALE

BUILDING SALE! "Beat Next Increase!" 20x26 Now \$3340. 25x30 \$4790. 30x44 \$7340. 40x66 \$11,490. Factory Direct..26 Years. Many others. Ends/accessories optional. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,795.00 Convert your LOGS TO VALUABLE LUMBER with our Norwood Portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwoodindustries.com - Free information: 1-800-578-1363 ext. 300N

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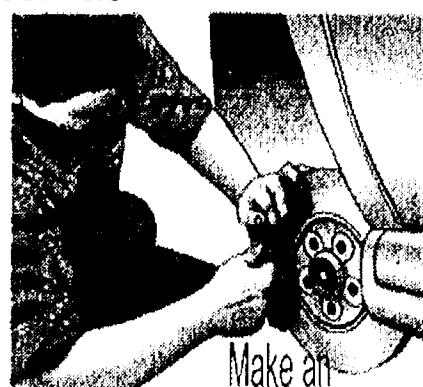
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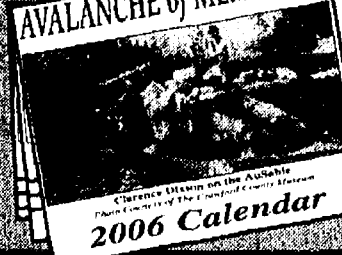
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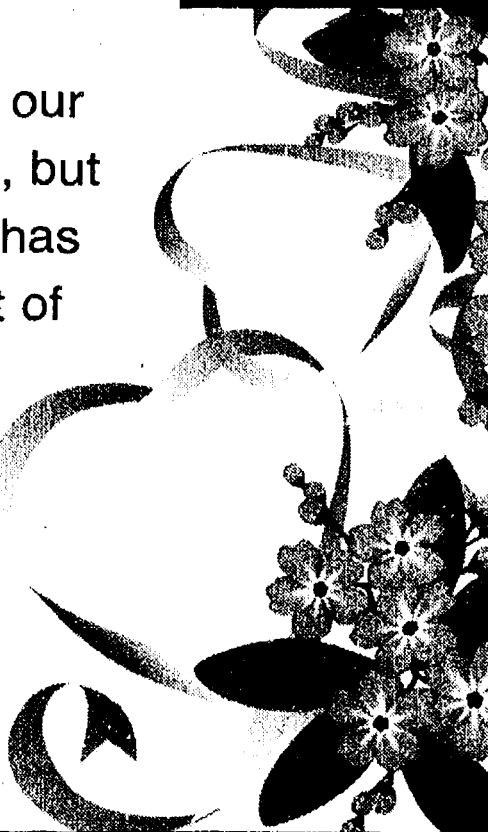
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so much!
Love Jack,
Jace, Jane
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Violet,

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stood the test of
time. Thanks
for always
being
there for
us.
Bob & Mae



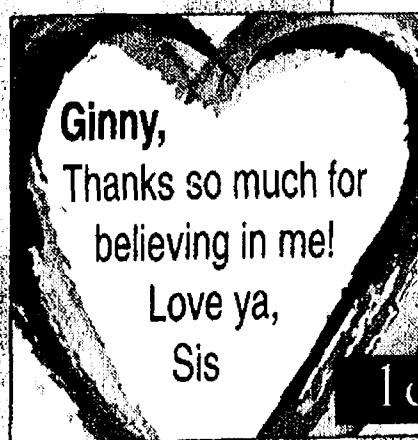
1cx2" ~ \$6

Dear Dan,
Roses are red, Violets are blue,
Your feet smell, But I still love
you!



1cx2" ~ \$6

Dear Christine,
Life with you
couldn't
be any
sweeter.
With all
my love,
Drake

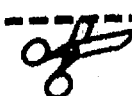


Ginny,
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believing in me!
Love ya,
Sis

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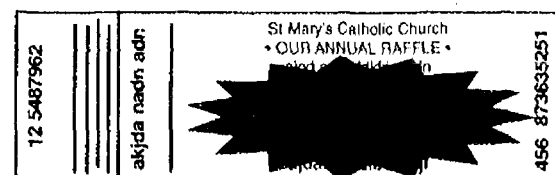
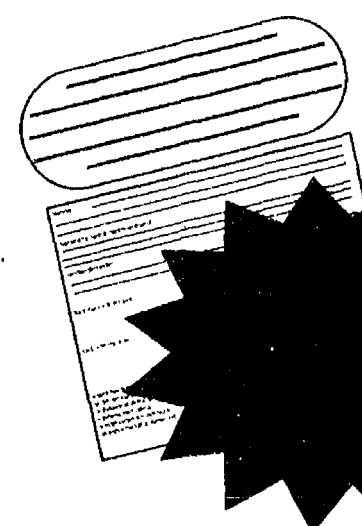
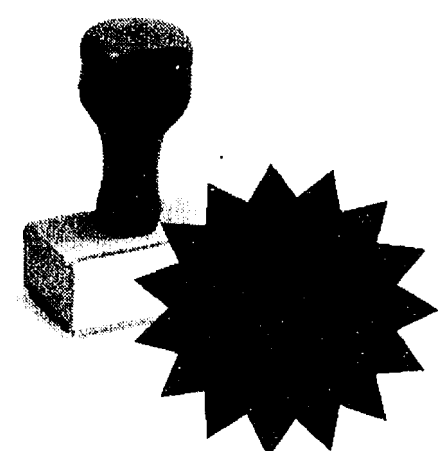
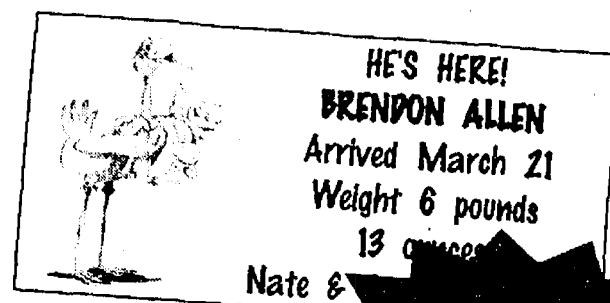
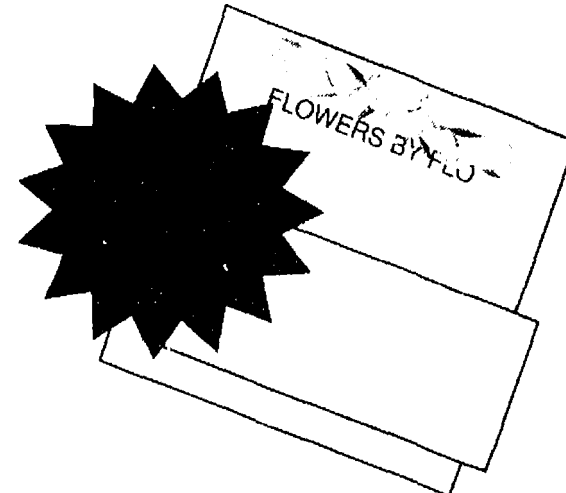
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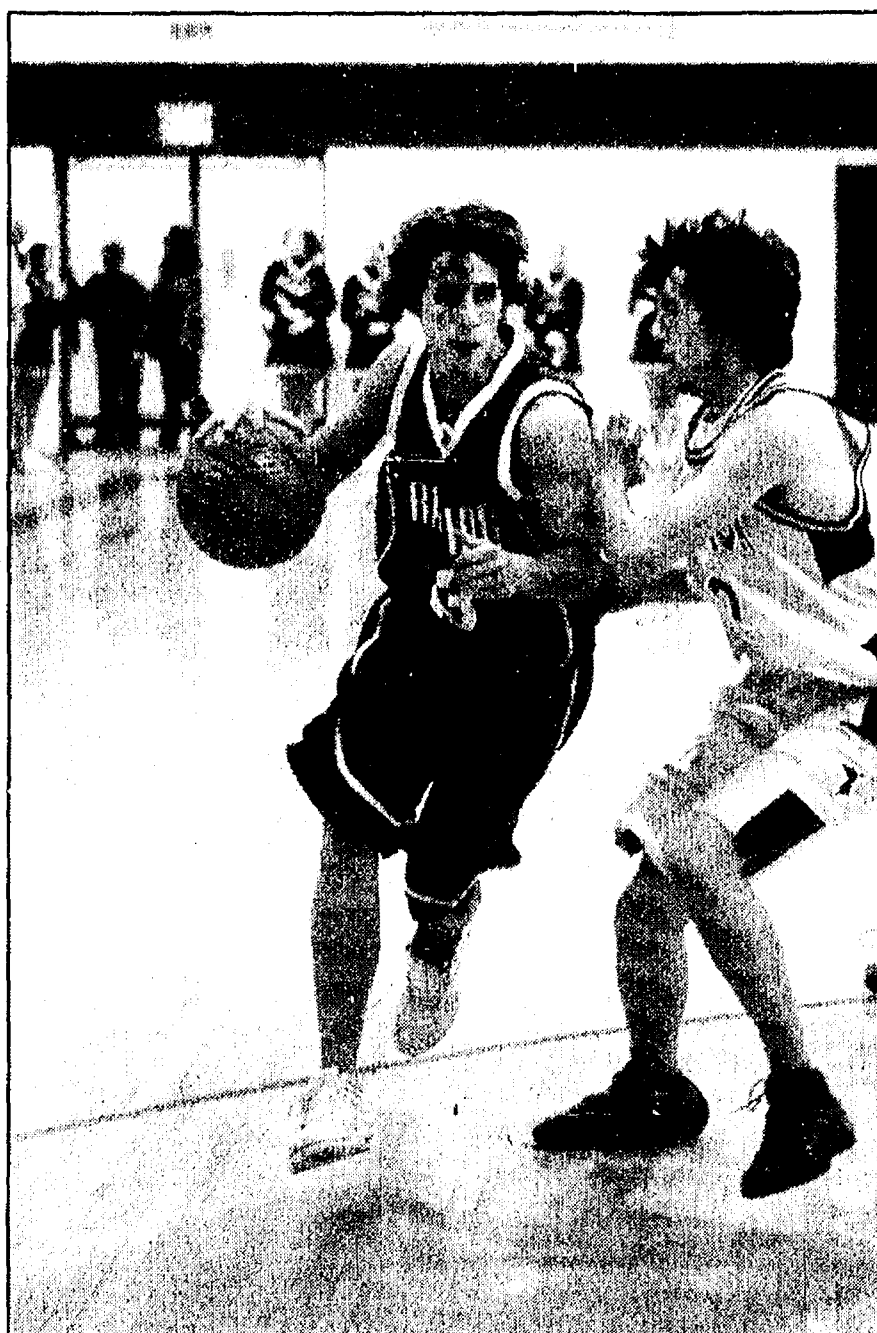
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Eli VanNuck (left) and Bobby Starks (right) control the ball for the Vikings during last Tuesday's varsity basketball contest at Roscommon High School.



Grayling wins 72-67 in overtime at Roscommon

Continued from Page 1B
 remaining in the fourth quarter. Two free throw shots gave the lead back to Roscommon, 56-55. Grayling missed an inside shot and Roscommon rebounded. The Bucks moved the ball around to take time off the clock. Starks forced a tie-up on defense, and the possession arrow favored GHS. The Vikings tried for three and missed, and the Bucks grabbed the rebound. Grayling

fouled to stop the clock. The Bucks hit both free throws to lead 58-55 with five seconds left in regulation.

The Vikings got the ball in bounds and across the half-court line, and called a quick timeout, stopping the clock at 0:03.

The Vikings passed in bounds and passed again to Starks, who shot from three-point range as time expired. The shot went in, tying the ball game at 58-58 and forcing overtime.

Grayling scored first in OT on a put-back by Mike Boylan. Two free throws by VanNuck gave GHS a 62-58 lead. An inside shot pulled the Bucks within two. A lay-up by Steve Hodge put the Vikings ahead by four. Two free throws by Roscommon cut Grayling's lead back to two. An inside shot by Zach Dean gave GHS a 66-62 advantage with 1:45 left in overtime.

A free throw by Roscommon pulled the Bucks within three. Grayling turned the ball over and Roscommon tried for three. The shot missed and Dean rebounded. A lay-up by Hodge put the Vikings up by five.

A free throw shot by the Bucks cut Grayling's lead to four. Roscommon fouled to stop the clock. VanNuck hit both free throws. A three-pointer by Roscommon made it a three-point game, 70-67.

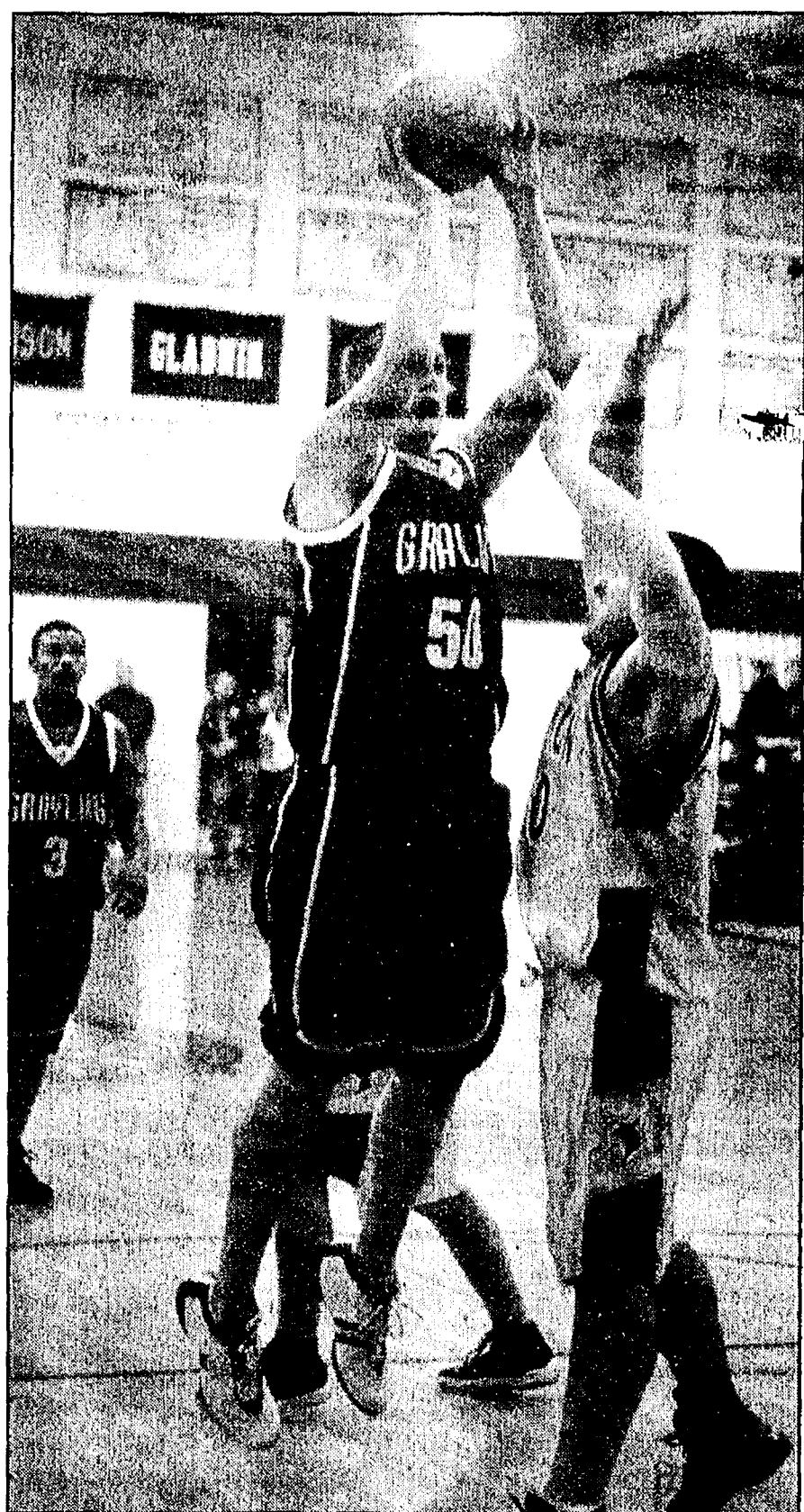
The Bucks fouled and VanNuck hit one of two at the free throw line. Schmidt rebounded the miss on the second shot and Roscommon had to foul. Schmidt converted one of two at the line to give Grayling a 72-67 advantage with 19 seconds left in overtime.

The Bucks tried for three, missed, and VanNuck grabbed the loose ball. The Vikings killed the last few seconds and won the game by a final score of 72-67.

"We knew going in it was going to be a tough one. Our kids showed great character in this game," Coach Rich Moffit said. "It's a testament to our character that we were able to come back when we were down like that. Our kids stepped up -- Bobby hit a big shot. The kids hit their free throws in the end."

VanNuck had a team-high 23 points and 7 rebounds. Starks finished with 19 points, 10 rebounds, and 5 assists. Schmidt had 11 points. Dean scored 6 points and had 10 rebounds. Hodge, Jim Boylan, M. Boylan, and Ryan Feldhauser also scored points for GHS.

The victory improved Grayling's season record to 9-1. The Vikings play at Charlevoix on Friday, Feb. 3.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Jim Boylan shoots for GHS in last Tuesday's game against the Roscommon Bucks.



Steve Hodge handles the ball for the Vikings.

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A Special to The Crawford County Avalanche

Grayling Dynamic Physical Therapy

February 2, 2006



Dynamic Physical Therapy takes yet another step up

Many people in town may have already noticed the move that Dynamic Physical Therapy had made to the brand new building at 1107 E. Michigan Ave. But the story behind the move isn't so much about the move itself, but more the rich history of a miraculous form of patient care, and a corresponding series of events that made it possible for such care to be readily available right here in our own neighborhoods.

After beginning as Manistee Physical Therapy ten years ago, founder Roger Karsten called upon his longtime friend and contemporary, Gus Meyjes, to help him expand his physical therapy practice. The two friends had studied Physical Therapy alongside one another through college, taking part in landmark studies and researching in their homeland, The Netherlands, as well as the southern United States.

In 1992, the two men graduated from Hoge School Van Amsterdam with degrees in physical therapy and would part ways to find careers in sperate locations throughout America. Roger would go on to work and continue his education in Detroit, and later in North Carolina, while Gus did the same in Gulfport, Mississippi. He would later continue his practice in Florida and Louisiana.

Although at great distance by this time, and also having wives of their own with children in the very near future, Gus and Roger continued to maintain constant communication.

Roger left North Carolina and returned to Michigan. He began an impressive clinic downstairs from Dr. Berard's office on Cypress Street and later moved to 315 Oak Grove Street in Parkdale. It would be two years after arriving in Manistee when Roger invited his friend to meet him in Northern Michigan. At that time, Gus was living and practicing in New Orleans.

"We had started in a very small space downstairs from Dr. Berard", Roger Karsten says, describing his early days in Manistee. "It was just two employees. My wife and myself. A couple years later, I called up Gus and said 'there's a great opportunity here' and we decided to become partners."

Once Gus Meyjes opened the doors for another new clinic in Cadillac in 1997, Dynamic Physical Therapy was born.

Dynamic's motto is "Your choice for compassionate care." It's a motto that was conceived with the help of Karsten's and Meyjes's very own patients. In a survey, patients were asked for one word they would use to describe their brand of therapy.

"We wanted to have a name that people felt they could associate with", says Meyjes. "So a number of words came up. The first and foremost was 'compassionate'. Second was 'dynamic.' That's how we came up with Dynamic Physical Therapy. It's all about patient-centered and very individualized care. And I think that's what sets us part from other providers."

Dynamic Physical Therapy focuses on treatment of a variety of musculoskeletal disorders including

Orthopedic injuries, work injuries, back and neck pain, joint replacement rehabilitation, post-surgical rehabilitation, Carpel tunnel, Sports Medicine, vestibular and balance disorders, various hip, knee, ankle and foot problems as well as shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand problems.

These treatments enable numerous athletes to get back to their game, enable injured workers to return to their jobs, and enable the health-stricken to regain most, if not all, of their function and mobility, using work simulation activities, functional endurance training, body mechanics, posture and injury prevention, and many other conditioning exercises.

Since 1995, thousands of healing treatments have been delivered to Northern Michigan residents in a positive and supportive atmosphere. The staff at Dynamic takes pride in delivering the best personal attention and one-on-one care possible.

"And the fact that we always make sure that the most qualified physical therapists are the ones doing the direct patient care," says Karsten. "There's a bit of Peter Principle in physical therapy. As soon as someone gets good, they get to a position where they do more paperwork and less patient care. In the industry in general you kind of see that happening. So direct patient care gets passed on to lesser-trained individuals. We think that is wrong. We think the best trained person should be doing most of the treatments and we work very hard to keep their paperwork time and administrative time minimal so they can spend the most time possible with their patients."

In short, Dynamic's model of supreme patient care emphasizes compassionate, individual attention delivered by the most qualified and best-educated professionals.

"And our model is constantly looking at how to promote that", says Meyjes, "and providing the highest level of patient satisfaction and results. We monitor both and have an amazing record there."

Patients are asked to fill out an anonymous satisfaction survey so that the staff at Dynamic can constantly survey and enhance their own quality of care.

"We literally have of thousands of them right now", Meyjes says, and it's obvious to our patients that we have their best interests at heart and that we're working hard at helping them get better.

Dynamic's staff has earned very advanced manual orthopedic physical therapy and training from various universities and programs.

"We have a good relationship with Grand Valley State University which is where we get our graduate students", Karsten says.

"We primarily see patients for orthopedic problems. We see kids two weeks old and people 98 years old. We'll see an occasional neurological problem such as cerebral palsy, stroke, or MS. But the vast majority is orthopedic or muscular and skeletal problems. It could be a sports injury, it could be an auto injury, could be a work injury, it could be pre and post-surgical rehab. But is has to be bone and joint. That's what we specialize in,



The permanent staff of the Grayling office make it their goal to work together to maintain a quality operation. Continuing educations programs ensure that specialists remain at the top of their field.

and that's what all our staff has had an extensive post graduate education in."

This great aspect of Dynamic Physical Therapy demonstrates their capability as a teaching facility.

"We require that our Physical Therapists do a structured program of two and a half years of post-graduate training next to working in the office", Meyjes says. "And that leads to speciality certifications. In a market where it's difficult to get people, we've been able to attract people with a certain mind set because we heavily promote that, and we pay for our staff so they can further themselves professionally while they're working."

Because seeing a physical therapist differs in so many ways to a typical appointment with a physician, Dynamic goes out of their way to be as accommodating as possible.

The average time that a trip to a physical therapist is 45 minutes, almost five times the length of a visit to a regular physician. Some may spend even longer with their exercise program as they improve their functions.

These programs are very specific to the individual based on a variety of factors from age to the type of and extent of an injury. Dynamic's focus on manual therapy and patient orientated care sets them above all the rest.

"We have a very active approach to therapy which means we're exercised based, manual therapy based, and we're education based", says Meyjes. "That is really the three pillars of our approach."

"Once we get an exercise program going for someone", Karsten explains, "That's going to be part of their program every time they come in, because people learn with repetition and we need to achieve some physiological change in the body. It takes time, but we're always perfecting our exercises because people need a lot of cues in order to get better and better."

Twenty years ago, the idea of having a facility like Dynamic Physical Therapy in the Grayling area may have seemed unfathomable. But not only have the enormous advances in the field of physical therapy made treatments more accessible, but other therapists, like Roger and Gus, are realizing that there is a large demand for PT in smaller communities.

But it's not just the need for patient care that keeps Roger and Gus in Northern Michigan. They've developed a heartfelt appreciation for what smaller communities have to offer them in return.

"There is a different pace to life up here than there is in (big cities)", says Karsten. "Your work is much more pleasant when the people you're dealing with are not so rushed and they're willing to follow your advice."

"Physical Therapy is really an interactive form of health care. It's not filling out prescriptions and sending people on their way. It's saying 'you need to do the things we tell you to do'. It's more a team effort. And when you're working with people who feel rushed because they have a long commute through the city and their minds are on other things, it gets hard to do your profession well. But that's not the case in Northern Michigan. People here are really receptive."

"The quality of health care here is exceptionally good", Meyjes raves "And because you have a small town feel, and people know each other, I think it's even better. There is level of personal involvement that you will not find in a metropolitan area."

If asked about it, everyone at Dynamic, will assert that the amount of patient care and individual dedication is enhanced by small town atmosphere.

One is not likely to find a big city practice with the amount of experience and continuing education that these folks have.

In looking at the credentials and comparing them to elsewhere, it's unusual to find so many people in an organization with so much expertise in a small town. It's something that Roger Karsten and Gus Meyjes pride themselves on.

As for the future of Dynamic Physical Therapy, the possibility of opening more new offices in other locations remains to be seen. But wherever they may decided to branch out next, it is quite certain they won't set their sites on the big city. And that's a nice compliment to those of us who love small town life.

"We'll branch when we have the opportunity," Karsten says. "Our growth model has always been conservative. If there's an area that's in need, we'll look into it."

"It's difficult to find physical therapists particularly in rural areas. Students coming out of school want to go to the big city and have very little interest in coming back to Northern Michigan or moving there for the first time."

With Roger, Gus and their staff setting an example to upcoming therapists, a new trend is evolving in the world of physical therapy. And as long as there remains a need, things will always be looking skywards.

"That's been one of our big tasks in these communities", Karsten says. "We go out and do a ton of education and communicating with physicians. Because we really all work together."

Dynamic Physical Therapy's new Grayling clinic is located at 1107 E. Michigan Ave.

Visit www.DynamicPT-Michigan.com to learn more about Dynamic Physical Therapy and their other locations at 8872 Professional Drive, Suite C, in Cadillac and 1806 East Parkdale Rd., Suite #1, in Manistee, and 11293 North M-37 in Buckley.

For info on the Grayling facility, call 989-348-3027

Meet the Dynamic therapists of Grayling

by Matt Seager
Staff Writer

With the Grayling branch of Dynamic Physical Therapy comes a local team of specialists who are highly trained and equipped to address the needs of patients on a local level. The lead specialists in Grayling are Pat Cosgrove and Stacy Fiefield.

"Physical therapy was pretty active and I didn't want a desk job," said Cosgrove, who decided in high school that physical therapy was the career for him. As an athlete and ardent weight lifter, Cosgrove sought to make a difference while maintaining an edge.

He completed his first step towards fulfilling this goal when he graduated from Wayne State in 1984. After this he continued his studies and became certified in orthopedic manual therapy. Staying true to his goals, he was attracted to Dynamic for a very specific reason.

"It was more of a hands on treatment model rather than doing all the paperwork and letting other people treat (the patients)," said Cosgrove. As a company, Dynamic prides itself on the fact that its top specialists spend most of their time working directly with patients instead of getting bogged down in administrative duties.

"I love it. It's active- everyday I'm moving and doing things," said Cosgrove. Since 1990, Cosgrove has lived and worked in the Northern Michigan area. He is very enthusiastic to be assisting patients in the Grayling community.

"I love it. This is a great area. I like to mountain bike and I like to get outside a lot," said Cosgrove. "It's a friendlier atmosphere, I think, too."

Cosgrove commutes to the Grayling office from Gaylord, where he lives with his wife and two daughters. When the work day begins, he makes sure the fun isn't left behind.

"That's one of our big things: to try to treat people with compassion but make it fun, too," said Cosgrove. He finds that the most common problems that he treats are back and neck pain problems before and after surgery. What is the job's greatest

challenge?

"For me personally, balancing care with insurance," said Cosgrove. Unfortunately, expense issues sometimes threaten to limit the scope of the care that Cosgrove feels is necessary.

For this reason, Cosgrove and the rest of the therapists at Dynamic often work with patients to set up home therapy programs that they can do on their own once they have completed their sessions with Dynamic. This policy helps to ensure that all patients get the care they need without being short-changed.

"All the therapists that work in our company care about the patients that we're treating," said Cosgrove. "I hear everyday that we've got such an uplifting, happy and helpful staff."

For Cosgrove and his coworkers, doing everything in their power to help someone in need is a no-brainer.

"It's a satisfying feeling," said Cosgrove. Working alongside Cosgrove is the Grayling branch's other lead therapist, Stacy Fiefield. The appeal of helping people is what attracted Fiefield to the profession.

"I just like the way we can help people regain their function and return to their activities," said Fiefield. Fiefield first encountered Dynamic through an internship while she was still attending school at Grand Valley State University.

She immediately began working for Dynamic after completing her degree in Spring 2005. It was then that she made the major transition of moving from her home city of Grand Rapids to the small town atmosphere of Northern Michigan.

It's very fun...I've always vacationed in Northern Michigan," said Fiefield. "I really enjoy it. I wouldn't have it any other way."

Fiefield said she also enjoys hiking, camping and spending time with her family. She further noted that moving to small community involved adjusting on a professional level.

"Being in a small community, you have to be able to treat anything," said Fiefield, who said she deals

with everything from strokes to back problems. Fiefield appreciates the variety that she encounters in her career.

"I just like that we can see a wide variety of patients from young children to the elderly," said Fiefield. Although she like each of her patients equally, Fiefield has a special affection for the young people who are brought in for therapy.

"I like the energy that children bring to the environment," said Fiefield. What else does she like about her job? Fiefield is a big fan of Dynamic's staff continuing education program, which, not surprisingly, is a source of pride for the entire firm.

According to Cosgrove, "our level of education and our training of our therapists" is what makes Dynamic stand apart from the competition. Fiefield echoed this sentiment.

"I really enjoy trying to keep up on (continuing education)," said Fiefield. "Just like with any medical field you have advances...we have to kind of adapt to treat."

Although Fiefield's life has only just begun to unfold, she has no intention of leaving Dynamic anytime soon. Together with Cosgrove and the rest of the local team, Fiefield plans on making a positive impact on the community well into the future.

"It's a pretty good team effort," said Cosgrove.

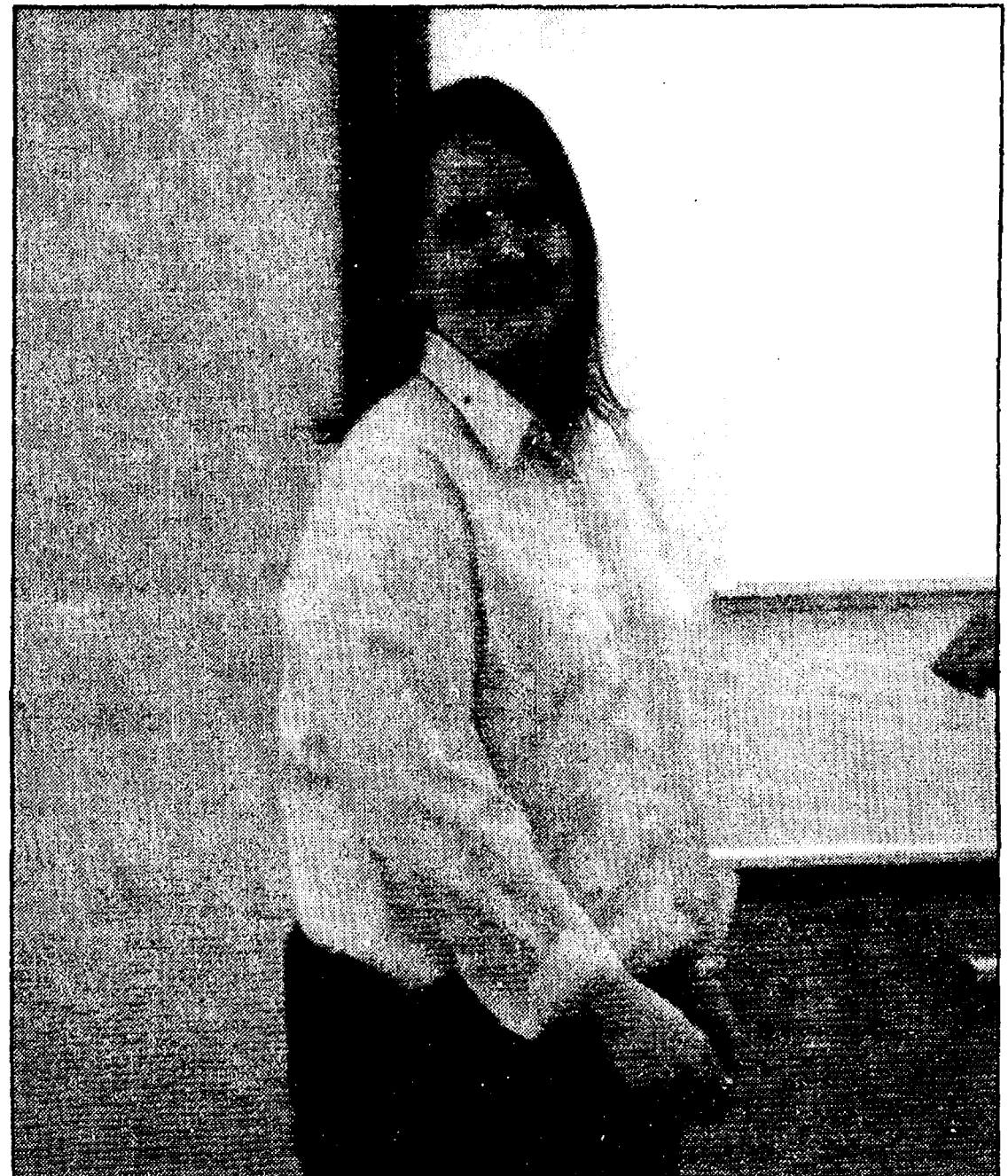
"(The staff) are really great. You need a good team to work. I think the patients really enjoy that kind of environment," said Fiefield. This atmosphere is enhanced by the new Grayling office, which has earned positive reviews from local specialists.

"It's pretty cool. It's really come a long way," said Cosgrove.

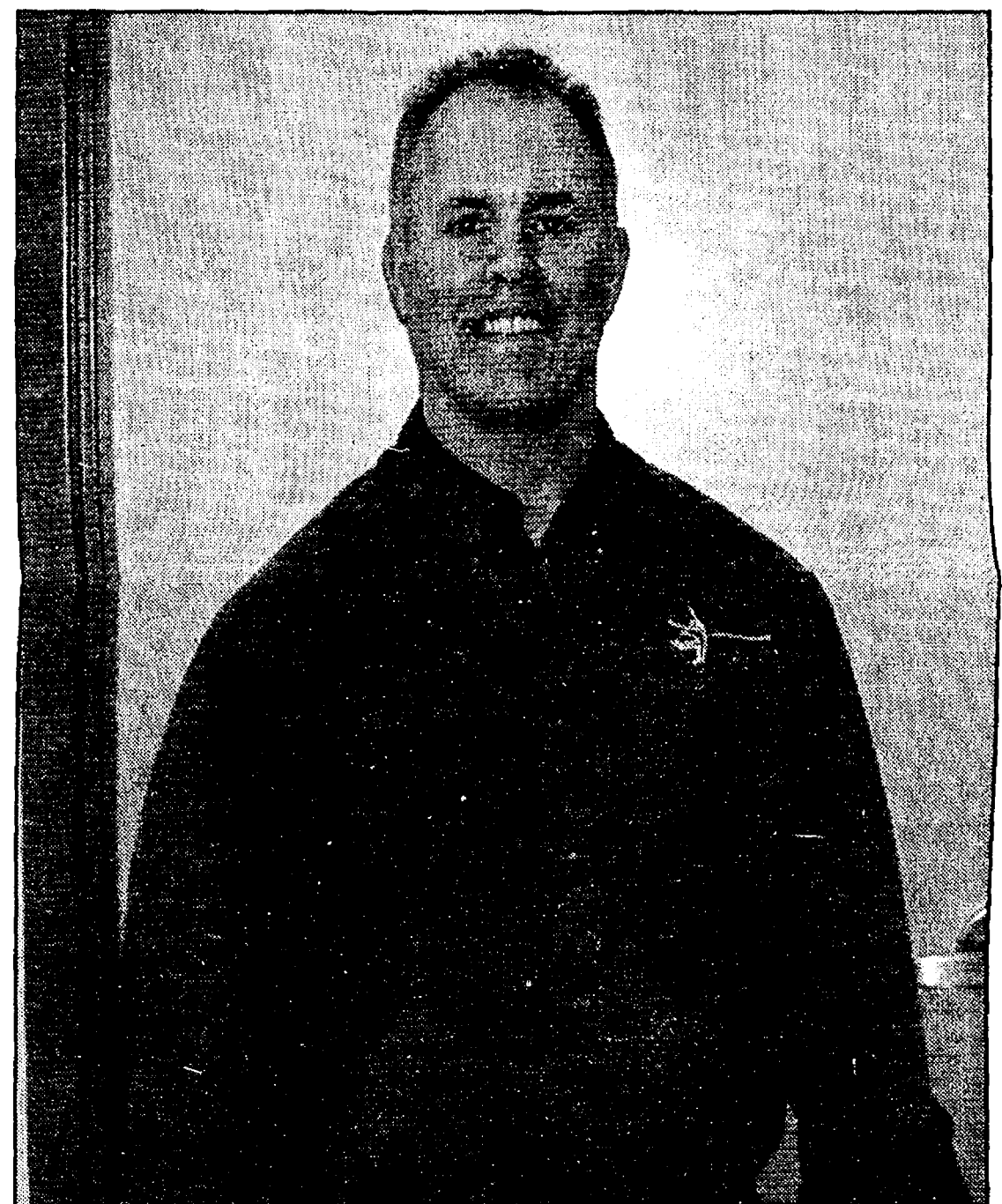
"It's wonderful," said Fiefield. This opinion is undoubtedly shared by Dynamic's many patients, who now have additional space to undergo their therapies.

This, combined with a talented and friendly staff, forms the basis for Dynamic's motto:

"Your choice for compassionate care."



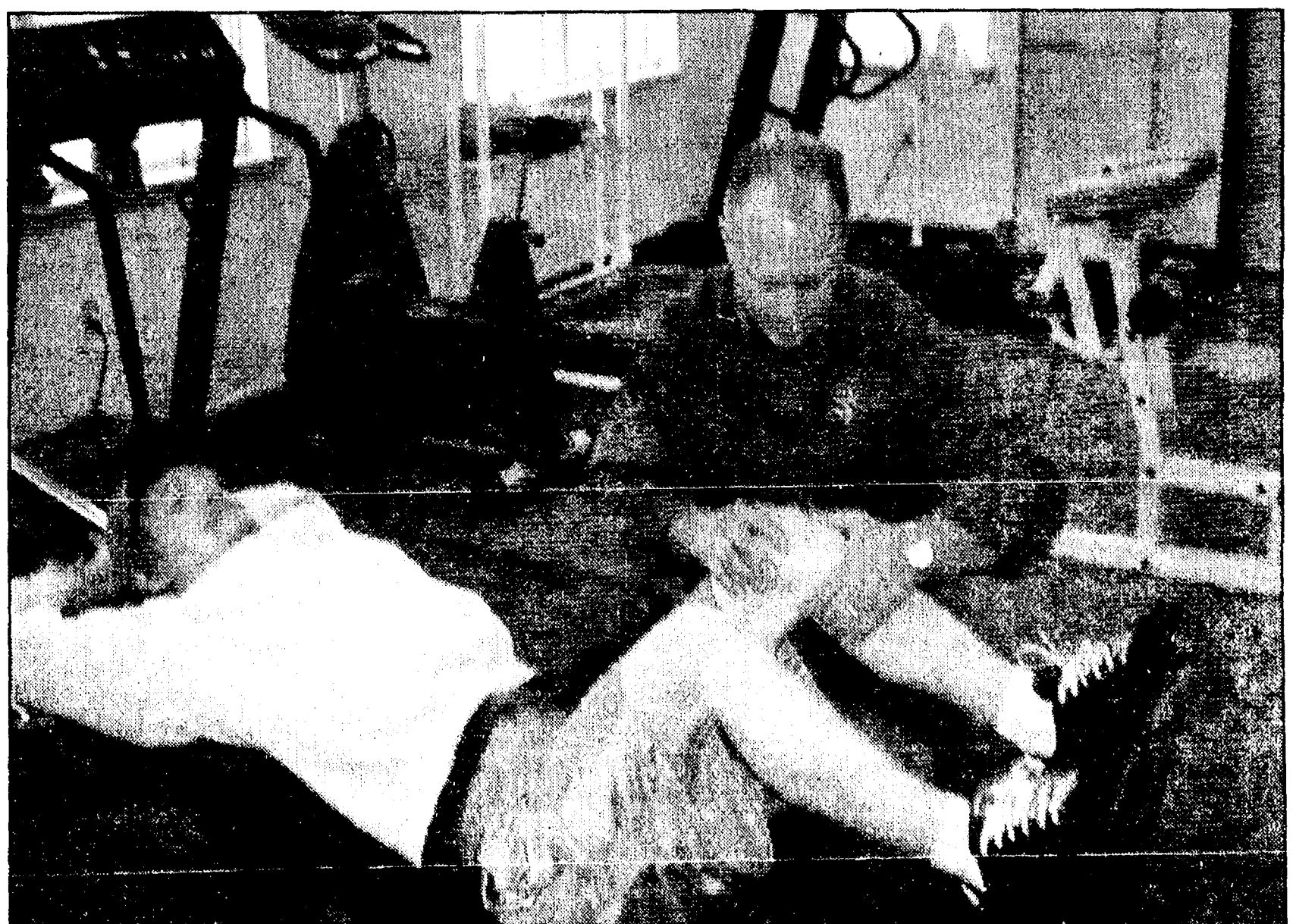
Stacy Fiefield, who recently completed her degree at Grand Valley State University, began practicing at Dynamic immediately after she finished school. She has now entered in a postgraduate doctorate program.



Pat Cosgrove aims to make the rehabilitation experience for patients both productive and fun. "That's one of our big things: to try to treat people with compassion but make it fun, too," said Cosgrove.



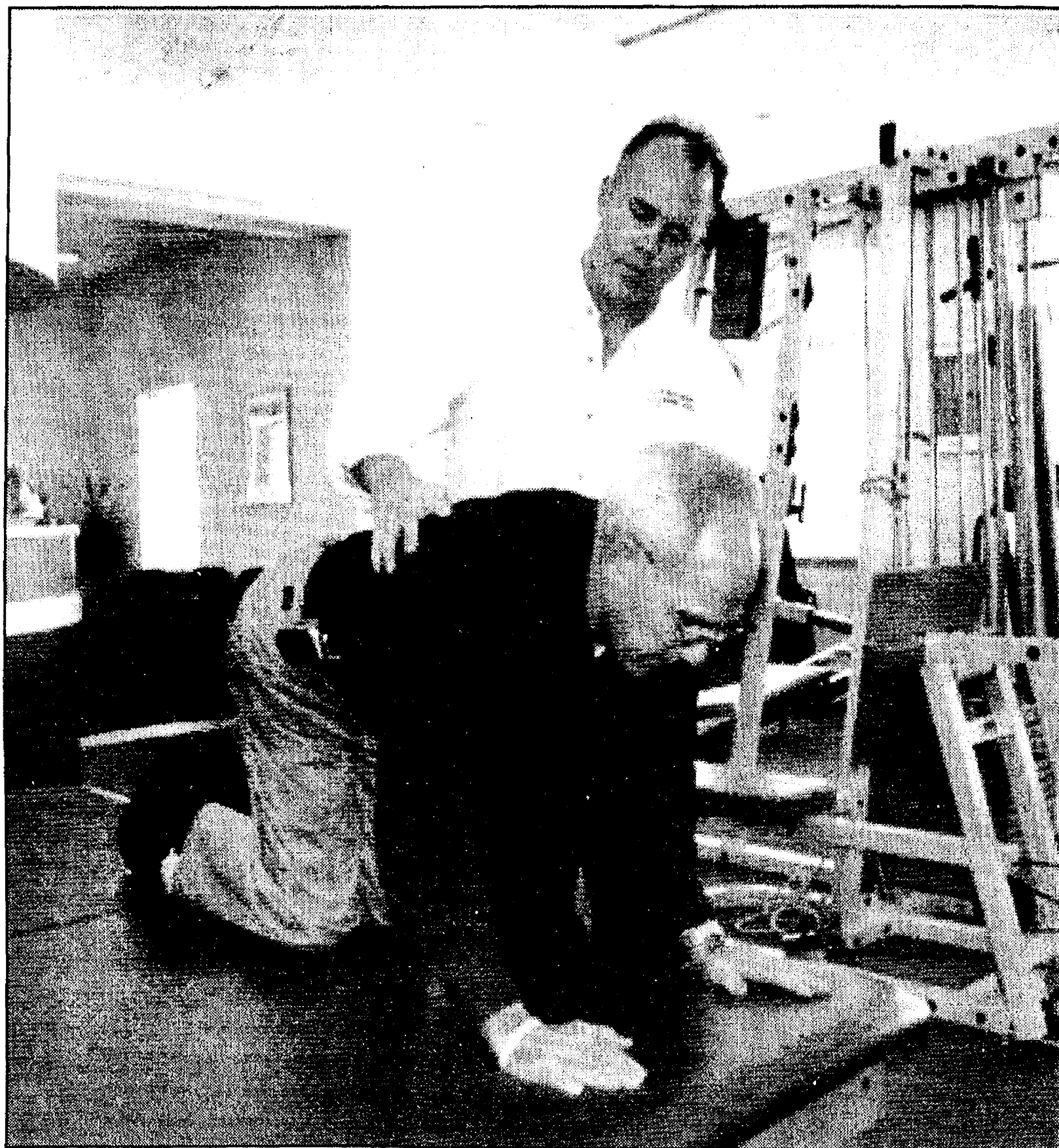
Stacy Fiefield treats a patient. "Being in a small community, you have to be able to treat anything," said Fiefield.



Therapist Pat Cosgrove treats Zachery Guardado's knee.



Teaching patients the correct exercise and enabling them to self-manage, take charge over their own problem is very powerful medicine.



It's the hands on approach that makes Dynamic Physical Therapy stand out.

**Welcome to Grayling,
Dynamic Physical Therapy!**

From all of us at

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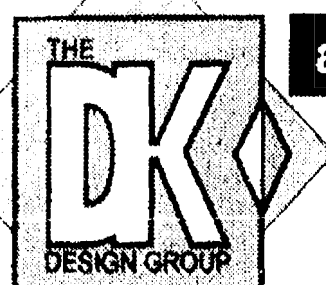
Mr. DeKryger holds a Master of Architecture and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Michigan. He is a registered Architect in the states of Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, New Hampshire and Indiana.

Mr. Kleinsorge holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Lawrence Technological University. He is a registered Architect in the state of Michigan.

The DK Design Group is a full service Architectural firm with five (5) employees, three (3) of which are registered Architects. We can also provide Construction Management and Design Build Services.

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Two friends, two therapists, one dream

Some of us might consider ourselves lucky to be able to keep in touch with a friend in the years following high school or college. Some of us rarely see those friends we still live in the same town with.

So imagine being friends with someone as children, then parting ways for almost 15 years, and starting up the friendship again after running into one another by sheer chance?

That's the way it happened for Roger Karsten and Gus Meyjes. Not only did they rediscover their friendship, but they were able to build a successful business partnership as well.

After several collaborations together while following the same career field in The Netherlands, moving overseas to do the same in places like Mississippi, Florida, North Carolina and Louisiana, they eventually found a home in Northern Michigan where they allowed the culmination of their knowledge, education and practice to take root right in Manistee. And in the single decade since, the roots of Dynamic Physical Therapy have blossomed across Northern Michigan from Manistee to Cadillac, Grayling, Buckley, and opening in Gaylord in the Spring of '06.

Dynamic Physical Therapy has earned a reputation in Northern Michigan for being a compassionate haven for those in pain and suffering a loss of function. To Roger and Gus, it's been a dream come true in providing patient centered care.

Roger and Gus grew up in the same neighborhood near Amsterdam, Holland, and knew each other since the age of six. "That's really a coincidence", says Gus. "We lived on the same block. We were about six years old and then Roger's parents moved to a different section of town and I never really saw Roger again after that." "Years later", laughs Gus, I'm in PT school. Roger was one year ahead. I'm sitting in the cafeteria thinking "That guy really looks familiar", and I go up to him and ask "Are you Roger Karsten? and he said "yeah" you remember me? and from that moment we reformed our friendship."

"That's remarkable in itself because I didn't recognize him", Roger remarks before turning to

Gus. "And I'm still amazed that you recognized me."

Enrolled at Hoge School Van Amsterdam in Holland, Roger and Gus sharpened their skills, attitudes and concepts about physical therapy alongside one another, incorporating as much up-to-date, fact-based education as possible with their own belief about how to greater accommodate the patient and improve upon established patient-centered care.

"We basically knew in PT school where we're going to fit in", Roger says, "The Physical Therapy programs in the Netherlands integrates a lot of manual therapy. And manual therapy by definition is orthopedics. Our interest is pretty specific. Really the best way to describe it is "non-surgical musculoskeletal care. That's problems of the spine, joints and muscles."

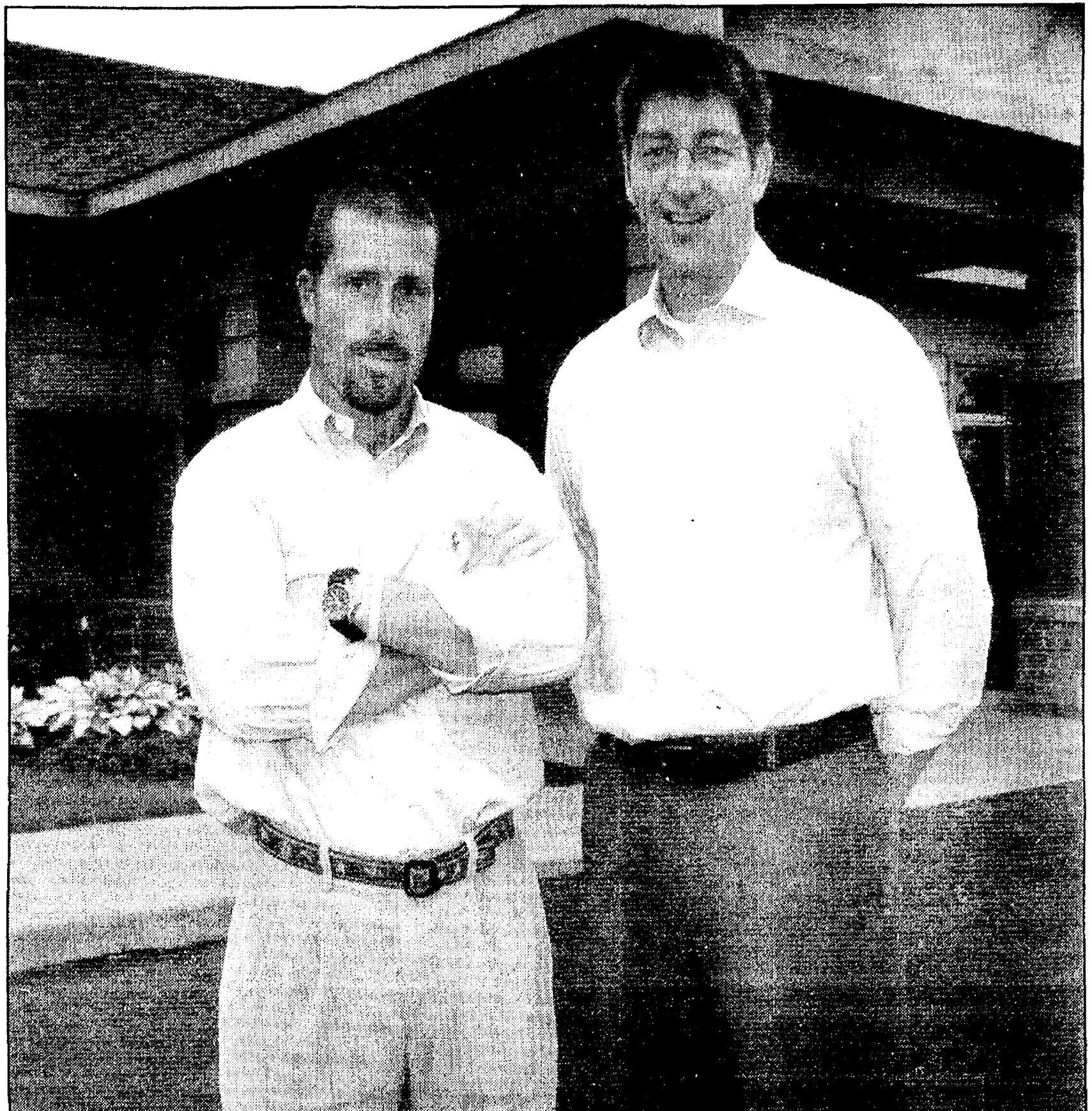
It was in school where two significant events enabled the two men to work and study physical therapy extensively together. "Roger and I did a research project together that was ordered by Ajax (pronounced Iox). They are the top professional soccer club in Holland. They've been world champions several times. They're like the New York Yankees of soccer in Europe."

"Some people have no idea how huge soccer is outside this country," says Roger, "And Ajax was a big deal."

The soccer club commissioned Hoge School Van Amsterdam to study the effect of incidents and severity of injuries on natural turf versus artificial turf. "We did a META analysis and researched the literature and did our own on-site study with the players on many different levels", Gus says "And we wrote a thesis in which we recommended that they shouldn't go with artificial turf. And that's what they did eventually. And so that was an interesting project to be involved in."

"And athletic injuries are right in line with our interests of course," says Roger.

"We did a lot of things together," Gus says, "The most memorable one is that we did a three month residency in Mississippi. And we kind of made that happen because the school wasn't set up for foreign residencies. But we had a real interest in going to the U.S. and setting our



Gus Meyjes (left) and Roger Karsten (right) are the founders of Dynamic Physical Therapy.

feelers out there."

"That was the best thing as far as furthering our education because this was the same practice where I would return later", says Gus. "These guys were really working at the pinnacle of our profession in the United States at that time."

It was there in Mississippi where Gus would complete his residency in orthopedics manual physical therapy at the Gulf Coast Physical Therapy Institute which was set up by Mike Rogers, PT one of the founding members of the American Association of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy (AAOMPT).

"It was luck", Roger says, "Because we didn't know where we were going to end up in that situation. We just wanted to go to the U.S. and be in an out-patient practice and it just turned out to be gold."

"For me it was the first time I'd been to the U.S." says Gus. "I

always had an interest in going abroad. I didn't want to be one of those guys who has his grandchildren being told "You're Grandpa lived in Amsterdam his whole life." Wanting to travel has always been in me. But I didn't know it was going to be America."

Up until this time, the two men were unaware that their destiny lay in America, much less Manistee, Michigan. A city that Roger and Gus had never even heard of.

"After I came to the U.S. for the first three months I knew this is where I was going to be and that's also really where Roger and I developed our vision as to what we wanted to do with our profession and how we felt we could really fill a niche."

Roger spent six months in Holland after graduation before moving to the Detroit area in 1992. That next year, Gus returned to Gulfport, Mississippi. "I was inter-

ested in pursuing my education after graduation", Gus says, "and they had one of the first Orthopedic Manual Therapy Certification Programs. And that has really grown. That aspect of physical therapy has become much larger and more mainstream."

"I ended up in Michigan because my wife was here," Roger says. "She came here because her mom was doing a residency in the Detroit area. So Michigan was kind of accidental." But Manistee wasn't an accident. Roger first left Detroit and spent one year in North Carolina before discovering Northern Michigan.

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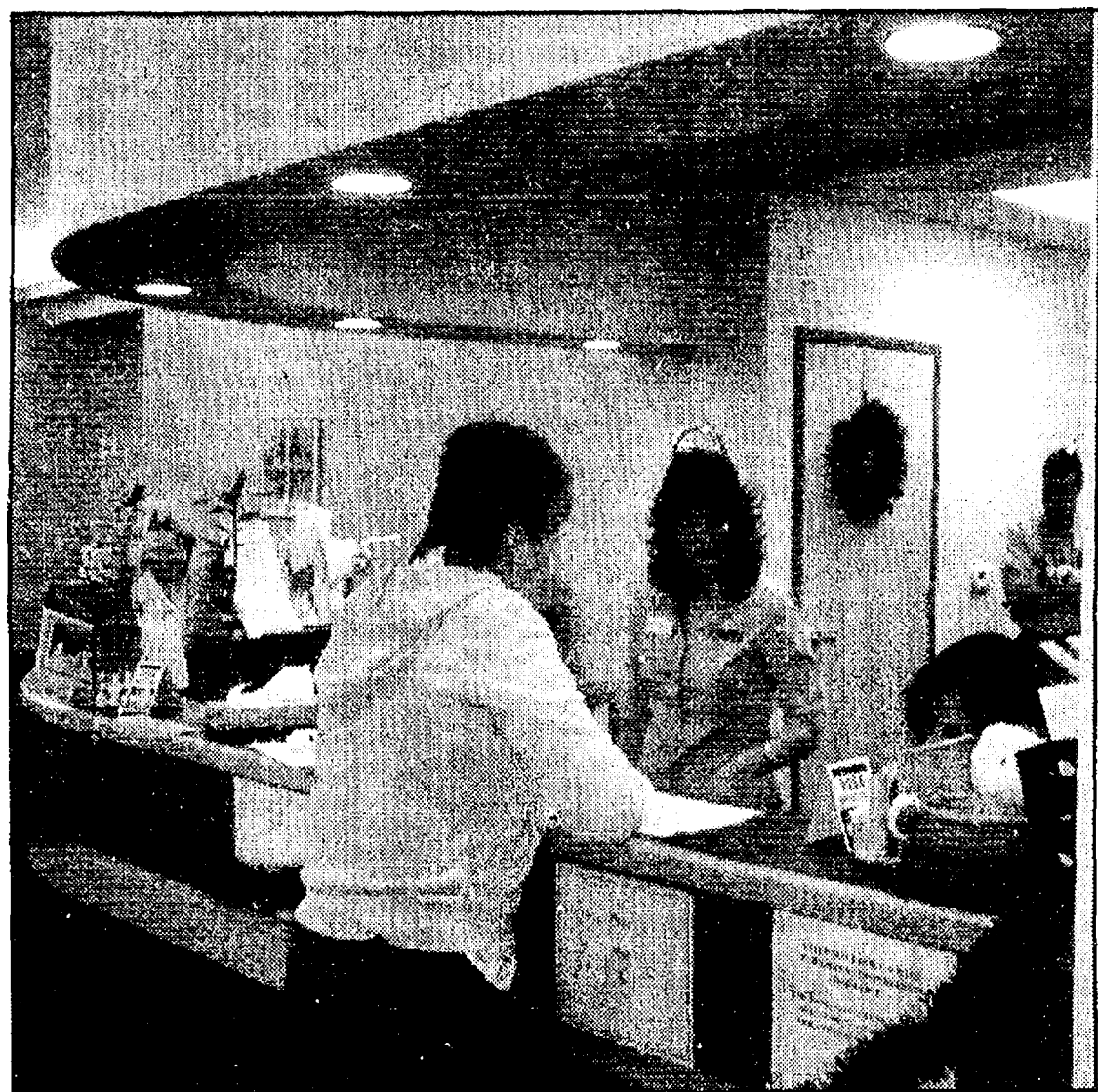
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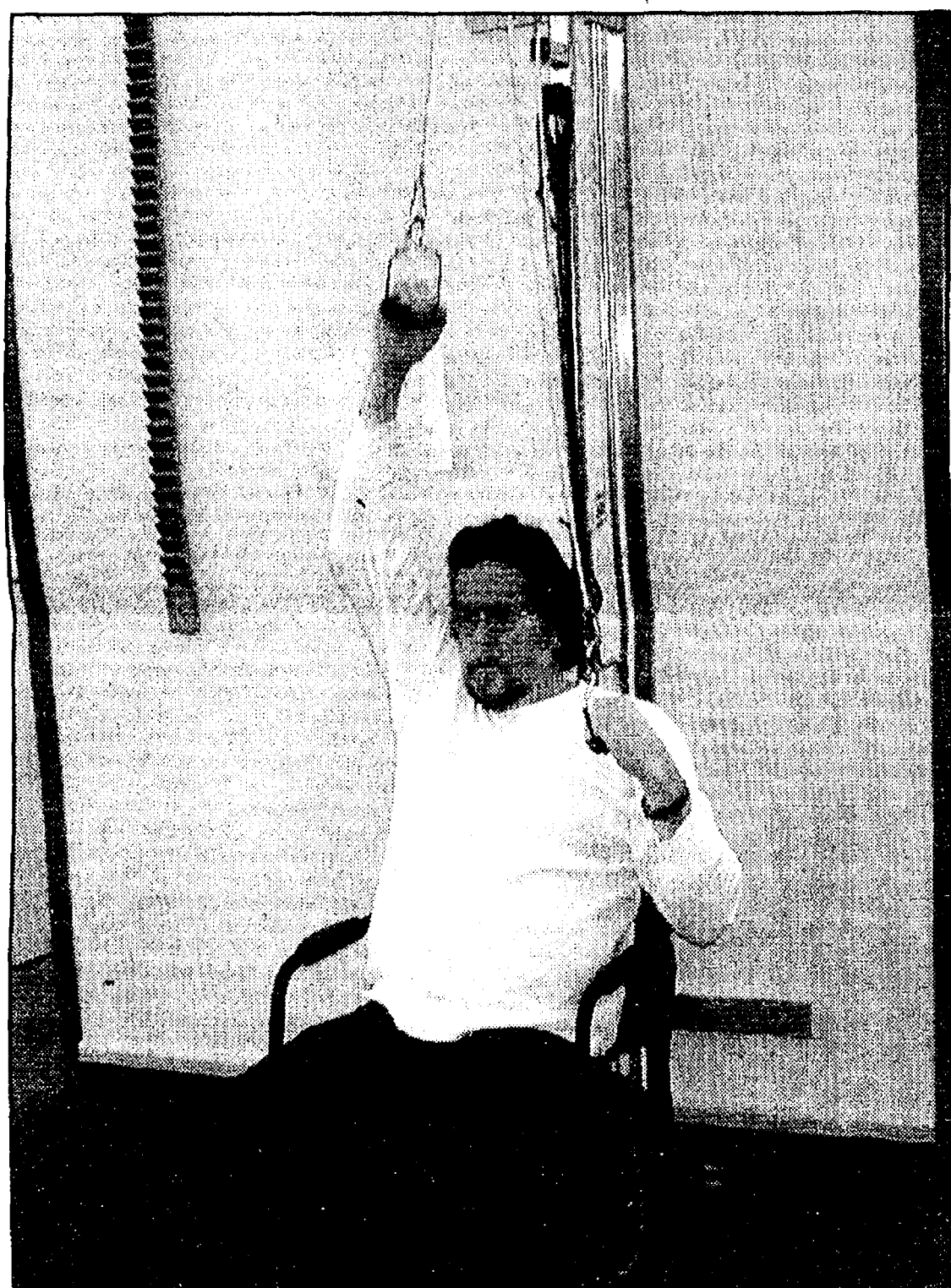
Kelly Van Houten

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Two friends, two therapists, one dream



At Dynamic Physical Therapy compassionate care is also evident in how patients are assisted in all aspects of their case; ease of scheduling and filing paperwork.



Butch Matthews works on improving upper arm functionality.



General conditioning and addressing cardiovascular training is an integral part of the overall scope of physical therapy. Sharon Massie is enjoying the view and atmosphere while working on her improvement.

Continued from Page 5

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"I went to North Carolina to start up a clinic for another company similar in size to the one we have now. I did that because I wanted to end up owning my own office. It's hard to do and it's very expensive to start a new office and so I needed some experience and data. So that gave me a lot of experience to set up this clinic for them. And we knew we wanted to come back to Michigan. But not to Detroit. We wanted a smaller community, because that's our personal preference. We wanted families and didn't want to raise our kids in Detroit."

While in Mississippi, Gus and Roger maintained constant communication.

"At one point I came up her to scope out this area", says Gus. "It's a beautiful environment. This is exactly the kind of smaller community we wanted to move to where we could really mean something to the community."

"If you don't know Holland, I can tell you that it's mostly water", Gus laughs. "And some of the water is reclaimed land. We were both avid wind-surfers at the time. And so to choose an area where you have big lakes and lots of inland lakes, it's very attractive to want to live in this environment and we thoroughly enjoy it."

In returning from North Carolina, Roger set his sights on Manistee. He first began to familiarize himself with similar practitioners in the community.

"I first spoke with Dr. Hansen, who has since passed away. At the time he was the only orthopedic surgeon in town. And he spent about 40 minutes with me on the phone after work one night. And it was that conversation that really made up my mind about moving to Manistee. I remember it being extremely unusual to get a doctor on the phone for 40 minutes talking to someone who he doesn't know who is not even in his community. And it was a very special conversation where he assured me that if I came to Manistee and did a good job he felt very certain that physicians would send me patients and I would do fine. He basically welcomed me to the community based on my explanation of what my vision is. And after he listened to my story and answered my questions he said 'We'd love to have you in this community' I think he said that specifically, and that was the clincher."

Because of the Oaks Correctional Facility, still a newcomer to Manistee by 1995, many available apartments had been occupied by prison employees, forcing Roger and his wife to seek a temporary home in Ludington. Even so, Manistee was where Roger wanted his new practice to be.

"Manistee was our first location", said Roger. "We started in a very small space downstairs from Dr. Thomas Berard. It was two employees: my wife and myself. A couple years later I called up Gus, who was living in the south, and said 'there's a great opportunity here' and we decided to become partners."

"I knew Gus had a similar vision of Physical Therapy and wanted to grow. We knew each other so long, there was a real symbiosis. That's really when we started the company."

The two friends and their wives began a clinic in Cadillac. It was there that Dynamic Physical Therapy, as we know it today, was fully discovered.

"The day my wife and I moved from New Orleans we had no space" said Gus. "We had no where to go. Then someone in Cadillac offered a home at the last minute. We lived there for about a year. And that's kind of of an interesting story too."

"My wife is from northern Sweden, in a small town called Lulea, near the Arctic circle. And in that town they have a semi-professional basketball team called Planja. There was an American student on the team, who's mother ended up renting us this house in Cadillac. So it was freaky that this guy who's from a small town in Northern Michigan and happens to play ball in my wife's home town in Sweden has a mother who rent-

ed us our first place here.

Gus's first visit to the Cadillac area was like an unexpected homecoming in a place he'd never been to before.

"It was weird, coming up to Cadillac as a Dutch guy, not knowing anything about the area. Then I open up the phone book and see tons of Dutch and Swedish names in there. Turns out of course that in the Cadillac area there is this huge enclave of Dutch farmers who, two or three generations ago, moved over here to make it in the new world. And here I am, amongst all these people who are descendants of people that did what I'm doing: coming over here and trying to make it. And that's been a phenomenal experience. I mean we lived in Tampa, in Gulfport, Mississippi, we lived in New Orleans and we have never found such a welcoming community like we've found here in Northern Michigan. It's absolutely amazing. From the first month we were there people were taking us in and making us feel welcome."

For these two men, who have come from half a world away to excel in their field, Northern Michigan has been the perfect home.

Roger acquired a 14 hundred square foot property in Cadillac where Gus opened the doors in July of 1997. Roger has been at his practice in Manistee for two years, then called simply "Manistee Physical Therapy."

With ideas and inputs from many of their own patients, they soon developed the title "Dynamic Physical Therapy" and branched out into Grayling in Crawford County and Buckley in Wexford County. Most recently, they are in the process of opening a new building in Otsego County in Gaylord.

As Physical Therapists, Roger and Gus enjoy working with people. The level of individual attention and compassion is paramount in their work. The new building here will accommodate the needs of this ever growing service. But no matter how much they grow, Roger and Gus assert the importance of one-on-one care above all else. This essential aspect of the way they practice their art comes a lot easier in small communities like Grayling.

"The quality of health care here is exceptionally good," says Gus. "Because you have a small town feel, and because people here know each other, I think it's even better. There's a level of personal involvement that you will not find in a metropolitan area."

Since moving to Michigan, Roger and his wife Heather now raise three children: two sons, Max and Nick, and one daughter, Juliette.

Gus and his wife Maria also have three children: two daughters: Linna and Sanna, and a son, Lucas.

The history of Physical Therapy

No one is immune to a musculoskeletal condition. Whether suffering a sports injury, work injury, living with any one of a multitude of permanent conditions or simply minor pains and mobility problems, we've all had to (or will have to) deal with a musculoskeletal issue at one time or another in our lives. Not everyone will need to see a physical therapist. But many will.

When you do, it could be for a situation you're not used to. For others it is a regular routine. While most of us have heard of PT, how much do we know about it? What does it entail and what are its origins?

Since before the days of the first World War, Physical Therapy has treated countless millions of musculoskeletal injuries and disorders. Physical Therapy, like modern medicine, has constantly evolved over the last 100 years. Constant progressions in the field have enabled physical therapists to successfully treat problems better than ever before.

It technically began in 1894 when nurses in England formed the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. However, earlier records of PT, or some variation of it, have been traced back centuries further.

With the establishment of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, a domino effect then occurred across other countries. Formal training programs were recognized, such as the School of Physiotherapy at the University of Otago in New Zealand in 1913.

In America, Physical Therapy began in Portland, Oregon in 1914, with the Reed College and Walter Reed Hospital. The first physical therapists, then called Reconstruction Aides, graduated from Portland. Reconstruction Aides were nurses with a background in physical education. This training proved vital in caring for the wounded soldiers of World War I.

Hospitals were beginning to pop up between 1850 and 1900. Only back then, these institutions were devoted to caring for the sick, and nothing more.

But during this time, the Scientific Method was introduced into the field of medicine, and the early 1900's saw the introduction of formal rehabilitation to the hospital setting.

Research has always played a role on PT since its humble beginnings. The first physical therapy research, called The PT Review, was published in the United States in March of 1921. That same year, a PT named Mary McMillan organized the Physical Therapy Association, which eventually changed its name to the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Educational standards for university professional PT programs

were now instituted, and programs were being accredited by a national directorship. New technology and scientific research began shaping Physical Therapy.

In 1924, the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation was created, using Physical Therapy to treat the physical ailments of Polio, which at the time was a national epidemic. Both Polio and physical injuries to war veterans would dominate as the primary problems treated with Physical Therapy for the next three decades.

Prior to World War II, 80 percent of physicians performed with simply a general knowledge while only the remaining 20 percent specialized in a certain field of medicine. These figures had reversed after the war's end, with specialized dominating nearly all physician practices. This included Physical Therapists who also participated in medical research, and by 1956 helped pave the way to a Polio vaccine that is still used today.

Treatment through the 1940's consisted mainly of exercise, massage, and traction. Manipulative procedures to the spine and extremity joints began to be practiced more commonly in Europe in the early 1950's.

Still, up until this time, there was no known practice of combining manipulative therapy with exercise.

Throughout the 50's and 60's, Physical Therapists slowly but surely began moving beyond hospital based practice. In the 60's, PT's practiced in a variety of locations, including outpatient orthopedic clinics, public schools, colleges and universities, rehabilitation centers, hospitals and medical centers and geriatric settings.

Specialization for Physical Therapy in the United States came about in 1974, with the Orthopaedic Section of the APTA being formed for those Physical Therapists specializing in orthopedics.

That same year the formation of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy (IFOMT). Since the mid-seventies, IFOMT has been a flag-bearer for change and progress in manual therapy across the globe.

The 80's saw a surge of technological growth. Computers now led to more technical advances in rehabilitation, some of which continue to grow today.

In the 90's there was a much closer attention given to manual therapy. Formal residency programs were becoming more numerous. And during the summer of 1991, a Norwegian manual therapist, Freddy Kaltenborne, helped create the American

Academy of Orthopedic Manual Physical Therapy (AAOMPT) with a group of Physical Therapists among the founding members.

This organization provided the means for physical therapists to band together with a common specialization in manual and manipulative therapy.

Formal residency and training programs have been formed throughout the U.S. ever since. Many of them are members of AAOMPT, which is a national chapter of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Therapy.

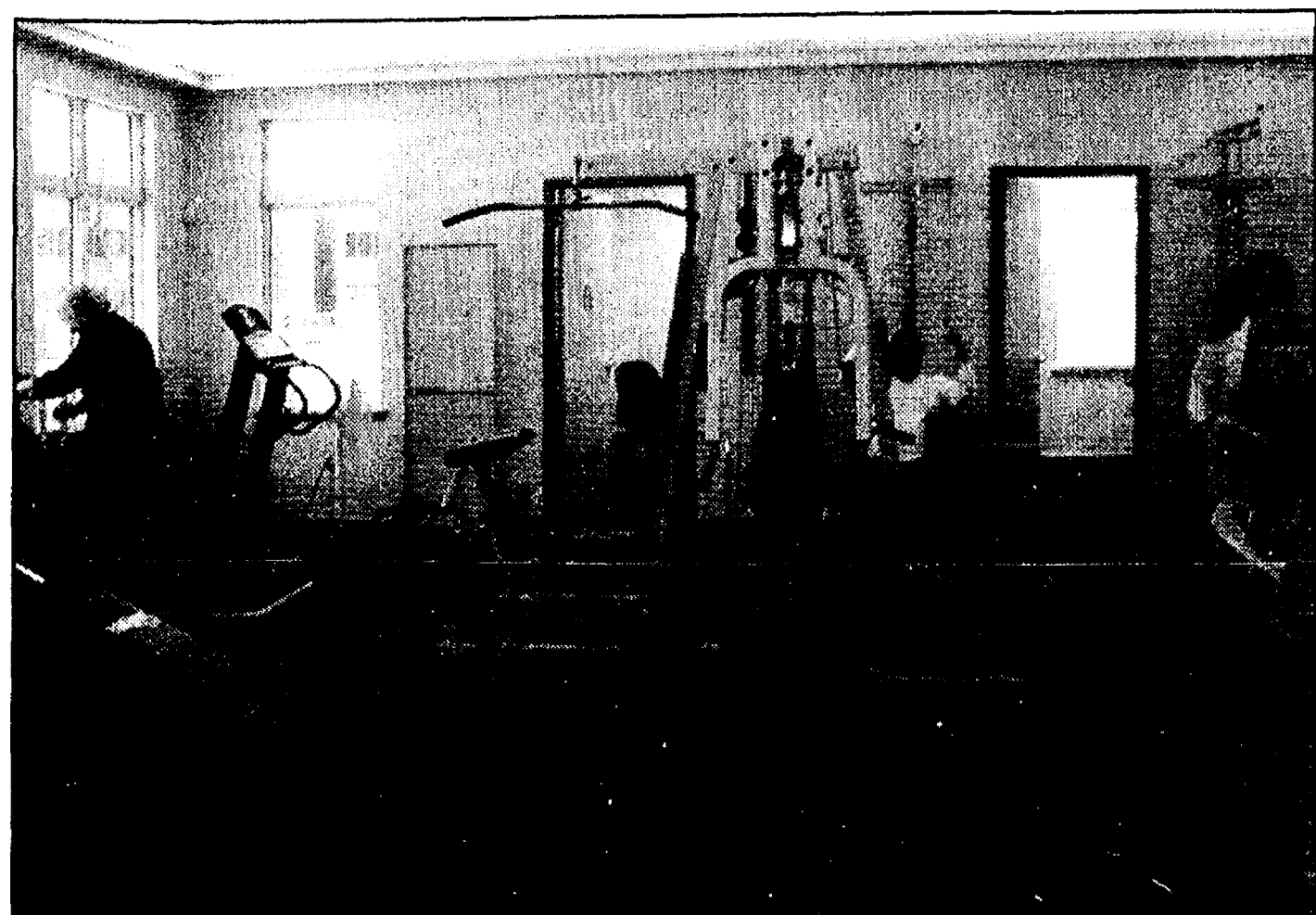
In a recent New York Times Article, Jane E.

Brody wrote "Physical Therapists are the unsung heroes for the millions trying to preserve or restore their mobility." Indeed, PT's are being recognized more and more each day as preservers of a better way of life for countless people and their loved ones.

The presence of Dynamic Physical Therapy is a welcome site in the Grayling area and across Northern Michigan. We look forward to further discoveries and exciting developments in the art of Physical Therapy, and are pleased to know that our beloved Northern Michigan communities have a chapter of their own in the history of this wonderful field.



The Grayling Dynamic Physical Therapy office is located across from Mercy Hospital on 200 Huron Street. Dynamic of Grayling was formerly based out of a much smaller facility.



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